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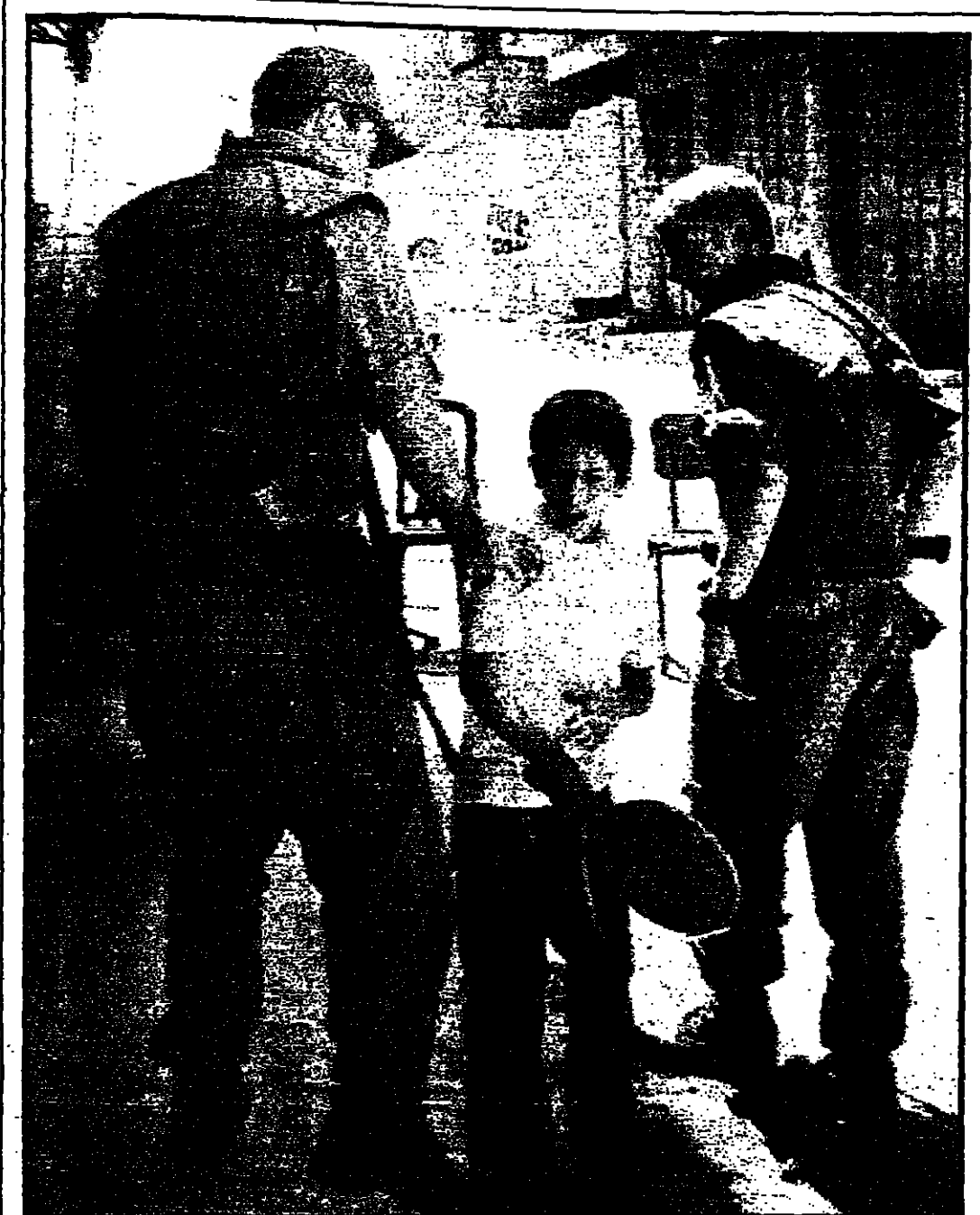


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A tense city
An IDF soldier escorts a boy off the streets of Hebron on Friday. Story, Page 3 (Reuters)

Analysts fear further TASE decline today

Shekel slides 2.7% against dollar, to 3.875

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange is expected to open lower today following the decline of world markets over the weekend, analysts said yesterday.

The fact that the Dow Jones lost more than 400 points in the last two trading days, in the wake of the crisis in Russia, is a clear indication that the local market will follow suit, the analysts said.

"It is not difficult to predict that the market will decline on Sunday," said Richard Gussow, an analyst at Santander Investments. "The decline of the arbitrage shares [which are traded both on Tel Aviv and Wall Street] will push the market downwards."

He said that shares of companies such as Nice Systems and Koor Industries, which are also listed in New York, closed on Friday some 10 percent lower than their closing prices on the TASE on Thursday.

"We will see a technical adjustment in these shares," Gussow said. "In addition, the negative mood in world markets will also affect the local one."

The shekel depreciated another

2.7% on Friday against the dollar in what dealers described as panicked trading after the shekel lost 1% on Thursday.

The representative rate for the dollar was fixed at NIS 3.875. The shekel also has depreciated 3.02% against the currency basket to NIS 4.135.

The shekel declined against all major currencies, with a 4.67% depreciation against the Swiss franc to NIS 2.633 and a 3.9% fall against the mark to NIS 2.169.

The decline was attributed to panicked investors and speculators who feared that the shekel would further decline in the near future, as foreign investors are expected to further reduce their holdings in emerging markets.

The sharp depreciation caught

the market by surprise, as foreign currency trading is generally limited on Friday since the business sector is usually not active.

Therefore, it can be assumed that a large part of the activity came from speculators who increase their activities in times of uncertainty.

See TASE, Page 2

After warnings from IMF and US:

Russia pledges not to return to Soviet economic policies

By GARETH JONES

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russia's acting Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, struggling to avert economic collapse, yesterday ruled out any return to the Soviet past amid mounting Western fears about the fate of market reforms.

His pledge followed a tough warning from the International Monetary Fund and the US that the West would not come to

Russia's rescue if it reversed its six-year drive toward a more open, market-based economy.

Russian PM must do juggling act, Page 5

no return to the past," Chernomyrdin said in televised remarks, rejecting speculation that Russia would impose state controls to overcome its financial crisis.

The government press office said Chernomyrdin formed a group of senior reformers on Friday with a task to prepare urgent anti-crisis measures.

See RUSSIA, Page 2

Terror attacks set back talks with PA

By HERB KEINON, MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NAJIB

The recent spate of terrorist attacks - in Yitzhar, Hebron and Tel Aviv - have dampened cautious optimism of an imminent agreement with the Palestinians on the second redeployment, a senior official said last night.

The official said suspicion that Palestinian police may have been involved in the recent attack in Yitzhar, as well as Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's failure to condemn any of the recent attacks, will cast a dark cloud over deliberations of the inner cabinet scheduled for this morning.

The official said that one reason

the Palestinian police are suspected of involvement in the attack in Yitzhar, in which two men were killed, is because the weapons used were Kalashnikovs, and the method of attack was similar to another in the area in which Palestinian police were involved.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will convene the inner cabinet this morning prior to the government's regular-scheduled weekly meeting, to talk about the status of the negotiations with the Palestinians.

Members of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza plan to demonstrate outside the Prime Minister's Office during the meeting to demand a halt to talks with the Palestinians.

According to Palestinian sources, Arafat met with US Consul General John Herbst and handed him a letter to convey to US President Clinton tonight.

The letter reportedly was in response to a letter Arafat received last week while in Oslo from US envoy Dennis Ross.

Arafat reportedly accused Israel of trying to avoid agreeing to the US initiative and urged that more pressure be put on Israel to agree to the plan in its entirety.

The senior government source said Israel has "done what no one thought we would do" and agreed, in principle, to a withdrawal from another 13 percent of the West Bank.

See TERROR, Page 2

NY braces for attacks following arrival of bombing suspects

By LARRY NEUMEISTER and TIMOTHY WILLIAMS

NEW YORK (AP) - With bomb-sniffing dogs, concrete barriers and extra police patrols, New York City braced for potential terrorist threats following the arrival of two men who are suspects in the embassy bombing in Kenya.

At tourist destinations and other busy areas in Manhattan - including Times Square, Penn Station, City Hall and the Port Authority bus terminal - a beefed-up police presence was apparent over the weekend.

"New York is the capital of the world," said terrorism expert Harvey Kushner, chairman of the criminal justice department at Long

Island University. "If you want to hit a symbol, you hit New York. It's also the crossroads of the world."

Mohammed Rashed Daoud Owahli and Mohammed Sadiq Odeh were brought to New York Thursday for brief appearances in federal court and were being held for trial in a lower Manhattan jail.

Authorities link the pair to Islamic militant Osama bin Laden, whom US officials blame for the August 7 attacks on the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed 258 people, including 12 Americans.

Odeh appeared briefly in court Friday and told his lawyer he was not part of the bombing plot.

Federal investigators say Odeh and other members of a terrorist organization headed by bin Laden received phony passports and razors so could they shave their beards and slip out of Kenya just before the embassy was bombed.

By the time Odeh arrived in US

District Court in Manhattan on Friday, his thick black beard had nearly grown back in. Odeh, 33, who was arrested as he tried to enter Pakistan, was brought to court on charges of murder, murder conspiracy and conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction.

The same charges were brought a day earlier against Owahli.

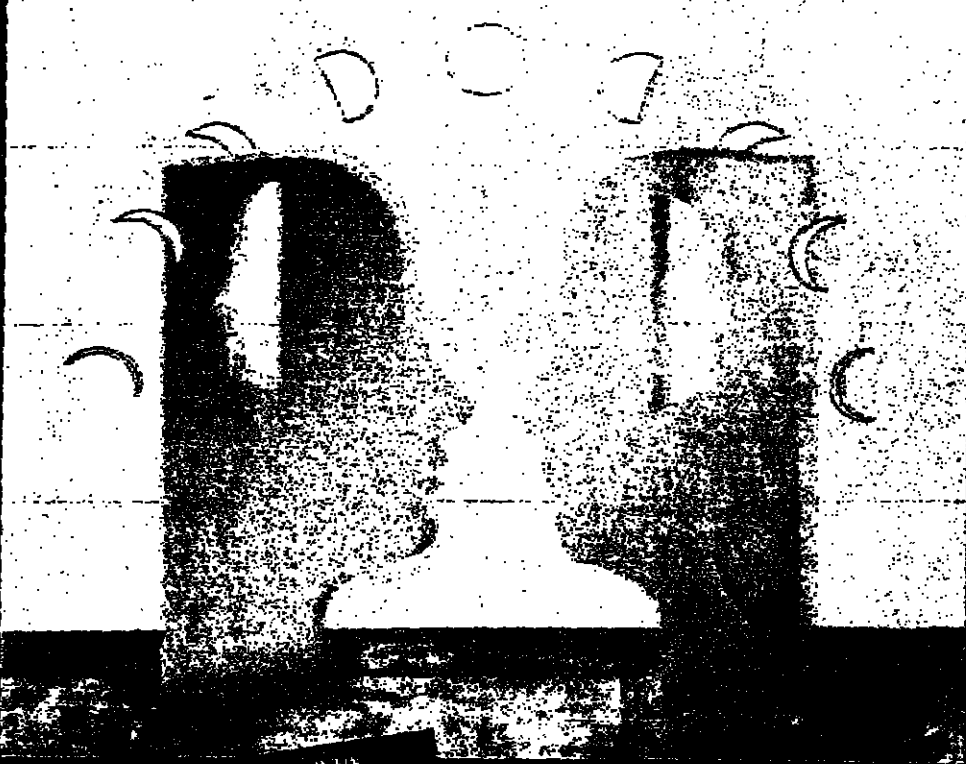
Odeh told his lawyer, Jack Sachs, that he was a follower of bin Laden, but insisted he was not part of the bombing plot. He also said hurting civilians was against his religion.

"There are Moslems and there are Moslems," Sachs said Odeh told him.

Sachs said of Odeh that it "is not his mission in life to injure unarmed civilians."

Sachs said Odeh studied engineering in the Philippines and has a wife and child in Jordan. Odeh is said to be either a Jordanian or Palestinian who obtained Kenyan citizenship in 1994.

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NEWS

in brief

Report: Security beefed up around Mordechai

The General Security Service has increased its protection of Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai since the slaying of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anan in Hebron on August 20, Israel Radio reported last night.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met several times in the last few days with GSS head Ami Ayalon about information received lately concerning plans by extremists to attack the prime minister, defense minister or another leader to protest plans for another IDF pullback, the radio said.

They also decided on steps that should be taken against these extremists, the report said. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Weizman criticizes PM on peace process

President Ezer Weizman on Friday criticized Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's demands for the Palestinians to combat terrorism if they want the peace process to advance.

"If I had to interpret the prime minister, I'd have to work 24 hours a day," Weizman said at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital on Friday while visiting victims of Thursday's terror attack. "We always are talking about when the second pullback takes place. I'd like to point out that after the second pullback there is the final status, which will be much more complex and complicated."

He warned that a war could break out if Israel does not give the final status talks careful consideration. *Itim*

Woman injured for a second time in bombing

Ora Kaufman, who was injured a year ago in a terror attack in Jerusalem, was one of the 21 people injured in the Tel Aviv blast on Thursday, *Yediot Aharonot* reported on Friday. Her injuries were not serious and she returned home after receiving medical treatment.

On September 4, 1997, Kaufman was on the last day of her vacation in Jerusalem when suicide bombers set off explosives a few yards from where she was sitting with her six-month-old daughter in a sidewalk cafe on Ben-Yehuda Street. Kaufman was burned on the face and left hand, but was allowed to leave the hospital the same day. The baby spent two weeks in the hospital but recovered quickly, Kaufman said. *AP*

Yassin distances Hamas from bin Laden

Hamas founder Sheikh Ahmed Yassin distanced his group from Saudi millionaire Osama bin Laden, the suspected mastermind of bombing attacks on two US embassies in East Africa earlier this month.

"Hamas has no connection to bin Laden," Yassin said on Friday. "Bin Laden is one of the Moslem fighters against American aggression, but we have not met bin Laden and he is not in our country."

Yassin was responding to reports that CIA agents have questioned six Hamas members imprisoned in Israel about their possible links to bin Laden in recent days. *AP*

Zehava Ben cancels concert in Nablus

Singer Zehava Ben canceled a concert planned for Thursday in Nablus because of reports that Hamas was planning to attack her during the performance, Israel Radio reported last night. Over the last year, Ben has appeared twice in Jericho and once in Bethlehem. She also sang about a month ago in Nablus, the radio said. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Palestinian court sentences cousins to death

A Palestinian military court sentenced two cousins to death yesterday for murdering two brothers as part of a long standing family feud. Ra'ed and Fuad Abu Sultan, both 24, were given death sentences for gunning down Majdi Khaldi, 32, and Mohammed Khaldi, 30, at a wedding party. Four other members of the Abu Sultan family were given life sentences for their involvement in the shootings, which also injured a third Abu Sultan brother seriously.

Members of both families involved in the attack belonged to Palestinian security services. Although Palestinian courts have issued several death sentences, no executions have taken place. *AP*

Sharansky to Russia

Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky is scheduled to travel to Russia on Tuesday to take part in the opening of a large Jewish community center, synagogue and Holocaust memorial in Moscow, his aides said last night.

Sharansky is to be the government representative at Wednesday's event, which is sponsored by the Russian Jewish Federation.

He also may hold political and security-related meetings with the Russian government. *Nina Gilbert*

Report: US poised to strike Iraq in October

Washington can be expected to order military strikes against Baghdad in October if Iraqi President Saddam Hussein fails to reverse his August 5 decision to suspend cooperation with UN weapons inspectors, according to a report in a London-based Arabic-language daily.

According to Western diplomats quoted in al-Hayat on Friday, the strikes would be aimed at weakening Saddam to the point that he will "no longer be able to defy UN Security Council resolutions" on permitting inspectors to seek out and destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

The attacks would likely target sites relating to the Republican Guard units in charge of protecting Saddam, state-run radio and television stations, the diplomats said. *Douglas Davis*

Arab League tries to broker Lockerbie trial deal

The Arab League is trying to mediate between Libya and the US and Britain over arrangements for the Lockerbie suspects to stand trial. League Secretary-General Esmat Abdel-Meguid said yesterday.

Abdel-Meguid said he had approached the US and British embassies in Cairo - where the 22-member League is based - and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan with a view to obtaining answers to Libya's questions on the UN Security Council plan for a trial.

The Security Council voted unanimously on Thursday to suspend sanctions against Libya once it hands over two men charged with the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 in 1988 in which 270 people died. *AP*

Gaddafi offers to help Clinton

US President Bill Clinton got an offer of help Friday in handling his domestic problems from an unlikely source: Muammar Gaddafi. The Libyan leader offered to send a lawyer to help Clinton deal with the fallout arising from his relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. He said Clinton is a victim of a Jewish and Zionist conspiracy. *AP*

Satanic cult suspected of killing pigeons

Police encountered a grisly sight in Bat Yam on Friday night. They found nine dead pigeons laid out in an orderly fashion in an apartment building.

Members of a satanic cult may have been responsible for slaying the birds, according to police. *Itim*

In separate Hizbullah attacks

SLA soldier, civilian injured

By DAVID RUDGE

A South Lebanese Army soldier and a civilian were wounded in separate Hizbullah roadside bomb attacks in the security zone and the Jezzine enclave as fighting continued in the region over the weekend.

Israel lodged a further complaint with the Grapes of Wrath monitoring group over the wounding of the man, reported to be a schoolteacher, in the Jezzine area on Friday.

Reports from the area said an explosive device was detonated alongside his car. The man was lightly wounded and was later taken to a hospital in the area for treatment.

Security sources said the attack against the civilian constituted a flagrant breach of the understandings that were reached at the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath in April 1996.

Israel had already lodged a complaint with the monitoring group over Hizbullah Katyusha rocket attacks on Kiryat Shmona and other parts of the Galilee last Tuesday night.

Seventeen people, including two IDF soldiers, were lightly hurt or had to be treated for shock as a result of the barrage of rockets.

Over 100 homes and public buildings, as well as several vehicles, were damaged.

The rocket attacks followed the assassination of a regional Amal operations chief in an IAF helicopter gunship raid and the wounding of seven Lebanese civilians north of the zone by SLA shelling during exchanges in the Jezzine area.

The five-nation monitoring committee is to meet tomorrow to discuss Israel's complaints, as well as protests by Lebanon relating to breaches of the understandings during

the recent heavy fighting.

In a separate incident on Friday, a SLA soldier was moderately wounded when a roadside bomb was detonated alongside a SLA patrol in the western sector of the security zone.

The wounded soldier was treated in the field and later evacuated by helicopter to a hospital in Israel.

Meanwhile, several ministers - including Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Interior Minister Eli Suissa - visited Kiryat Shmona on Friday to meet with heads of northern border communities.

The ministers were accompanied by Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazi and OC Home Front Command Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ophir.

The chairman of forum of confrontation

line leaders, Ma'alot-Tarshiha Mayor Shlomo Buhbut, charged that the Treasury intended to cut additional funding and other benefits that residents had received since Operation Grapes of Wrath.

These related to special incentives to boost industrial and tourism development projects, improving roads and infrastructure, additional finances for the education system and income tax reductions of up to 20 percent.

The period allotted for the special benefits is due to expire at the end of this year. The forum of heads of confrontation line communities is pressing for it to be extended.

The ministers pledged to consider all the problems, including demands for the construction of more security rooms and bomb shelters, and would formulate a proposal that would meet the requirements and special needs of the northern communities.

Sharansky, Yishai plan to fight proposed budget

By NINA GILBERT

Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky and Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai both have declared they would wage a battle against the Finance Ministry's proposals for the 1999 budget, saying Treasury officials lack an understanding of the country's needs.

Sharansky said Friday that his "battle for the 1999 budget would be unprecedented, using all means available" after meeting with officials at the Treasury.

"I won't rest until a fitting answer is found for bringing national economic prosperity," he said.

Sharansky also said the "lack of understanding displayed by the Finance Ministry in the face of the drastic deterioration of the state of the economy, the unemployed, the development towns and the entire business sector is [scandalous]."

He said he had nothing more to discuss with the Treasury, "which has lost its credibility," and would take the matter directly to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

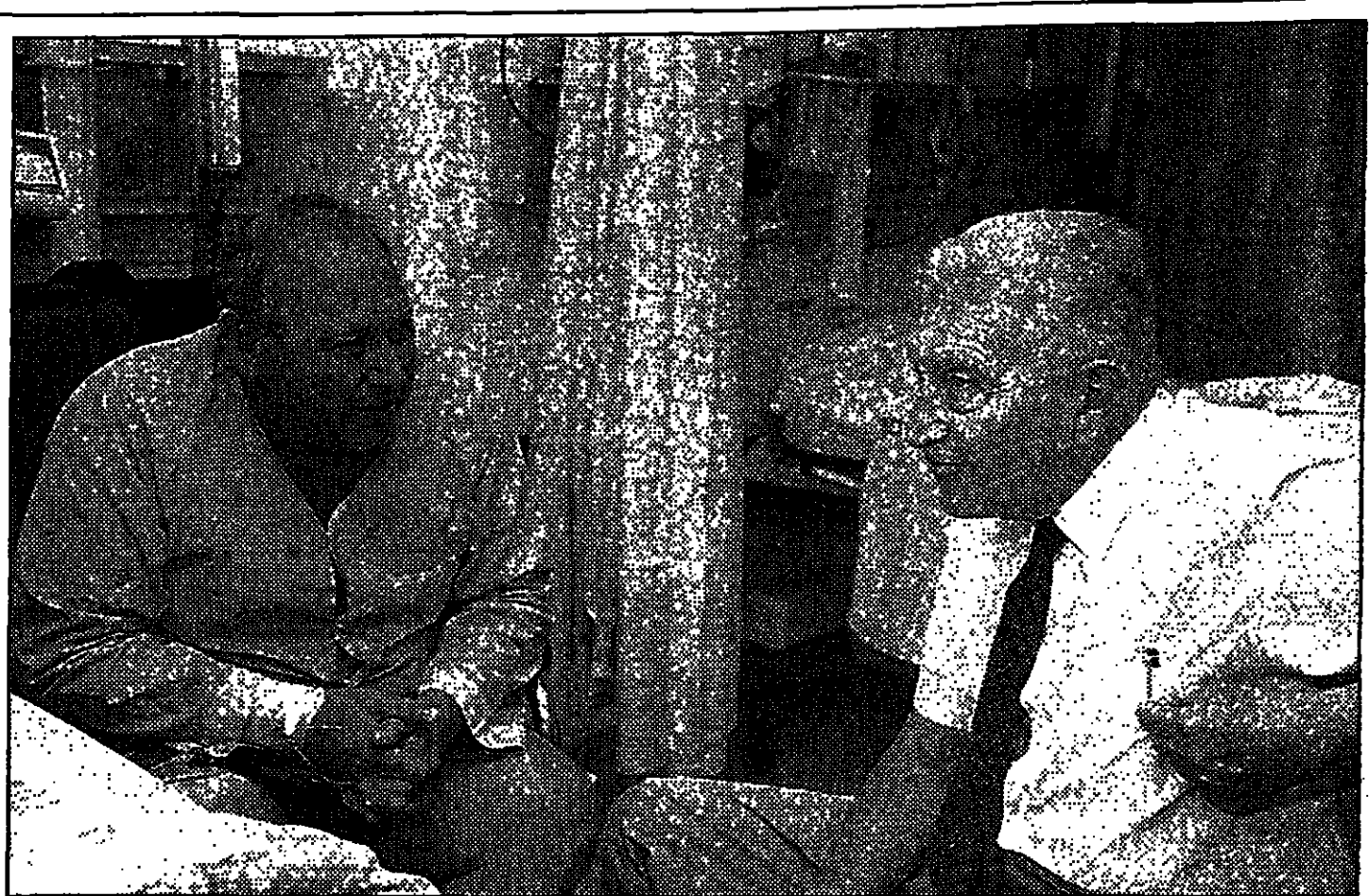
Yishai said he would vote against the budget if the Treasury continues to pursue its policy of cutting welfare budgets.

"The time has come for the officials of the Finance Ministry to go out and meet the mentally disabled, handicapped, and unemployed whom we are taking care of," Yishai said.

During his meeting, Yishai asked for NIS 40 million to solve the "dire straits of 300 mentally disabled who are desperately waiting with their families for funds to finance their care in institutions outside the home." He said the Treasury is proposing to cut National Insurance Institute payments and funds for prevention of work accidents.

The ministers held meetings at the Finance Ministry Friday to hear of proposals for cuts in their budgets in order to meet the government decision on the NIS 173 billion budget framework for 1999, the Treasury spokesman said. However, the government must cut another NIS 2.2b. in order to reach a budget deficit target of no more than 2 percent of GDP, he said.

"We understand that it is difficult to make cuts, but the government made a commitment on a budget framework, and we are carrying out a government decision," he said. "There will not be a violation of the budgetary framework."



Weizman visits fallen soldier's father

President Ezer Weizman pays a visit on Friday to Nissim Samuelov, who is recuperating from a heart attack in Hadassah University Hospital at Ein Karem. Samuelov had a heart attack after learning that his son, Sgt. Ori Samuelov, was killed in action in Lebanon earlier this month. *(Avi Flory)*

TASE

Continued from Page 1

In addition, part of the decline can be attributed to overseas investors who reduced their activity on the TASE following the decline of other emerging markets.

These investors wanted to limit their exposure to the local market during the last several days and are responsible for the sharp decrease of the local bourse.

Traders said, however, that local institutional investors are using the opportunity to buy stocks at attractive prices.

Traders said foreign funds that specialize in emerging markets have to reduce their holdings here, as they face strong redemptions from investors wishing to reduce their exposure to the global turmoil.

"The sales of overseas investors are not because of something local," Gussow said. "They need cash and the Israeli market here suffered less than others. They are looking for liquidity and therefore sell the blue chips, mainly bank shares."

He added that as an outcome the local market is becoming more attractive.

"There are many buy opportunities now. The banks, for instance, are trading below their book value," he said.

One of the most surprising outcome of the recent decline is that even shares of export-oriented

companies which benefit from the sharp depreciation of the shekel have plunged during recent days.

"It's the snowball effect," said Gussow. "It started with the foreign investors, and the local ones are joining the train now."

Investors are now waiting for the opening of foreign currency trading tomorrow, as there is no foreign currency trading on Sunday.

Dealers said it is difficult to predict where the market is going, because at such times investors tend to panic and behave irrationally.

"It's all a question of psychology," said one dealer. "If we see a real hysteria, it's impossible to predict where the shekel will go."

The main fear is that Israeli firms who took foreign currency-linked loans will rush to repay them, thus leading to a further devaluation of the shekel.

It should be noted that despite the fact that the number of these loans has declined slightly during the last year, many Israeli companies still hold foreign currency-linked debt, Gussow said.

However, he said that even if the shekel continues falling in the near future, it is expected to appreciate again.

"The decline of the shekel may continue for a day or two, but I believe that the shekel will stabilize around NIS 3.73-3.74 per dollar. In the past, every time we saw a speculative attack the shekel first declined but then recovered."

Under the draft the Duma will get more control over the government and will approve not only the nomination of the prime minister, as things are now, but also his deputies and some key ministers.

Interfax also quoted its sources as saying Yeltsin, who said on Friday he would not resign until his term ends in 2000, had rejected a parliamentary offer to introduce a law to give him legal protection from prosecution and a generous pension on retirement.

Yeltsin was spending the weekend at a rural retreat preparing for his September 1-3 summit in Moscow with US President Bill Clinton.

Clinton, along with other Western leaders, has offered Russia moral support during its present difficulties but has said the government must press on with tough market reforms as a condition for continued financial backing.

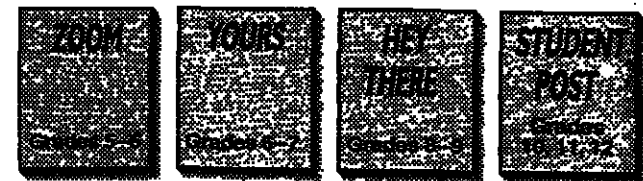
German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Yeltsin's closest Western ally, was quoted yesterday as saying Russia's crisis could pose enormous problems in international financial relations.

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Schools to teach about immigration from Arab states

Education Minister Yitzhak Levy looks through material the Yitzhak Ben-Zvi Institute prepared to teach about the immigration of Jews from Arab states, along with institute head Dr. Zvi Zamet (center) and Dr. Haim Sa'adon, who developed the material with Shlomo Natara. Lessons on Jewish immigration from Arab states will be included in school curriculums this year. (Tas-Or Photography)

Turkish PM to visit

Arrives September 7 for two days

By METEHAN DEMIR

ANKARA - Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz is preparing to arrive in Israel for an official two-day visit on September 7, following his trip to Jordan.

Though Ankara recently has improved its ties with Amman, analysts say that attention in the region is focussing on Yilmaz's visit to Israel.

This visit has a lot of importance for Yilmaz because he was the only Turkish high-level official in Turkey who didn't come to Israel after the two countries made significant moves and the agreements [between them were] signed, a senior source in Yilmaz's office said.

During his visit, Yilmaz aims to strengthen ties between the two countries and to emphasize Turkey's commitment to maintaining its good relations with Israel in the future, sources said. He also will

seek ways for Turkey to contribute to advancing the Middle East peace process, sources said. He is expected to encourage Israel and the Palestinians to resume negotiations and to offer to join the US as a mediator in the peace process.

Yilmaz will be accompanied by ministers, parliamentarians, generals, businessmen and journalists. Turkish and Israeli military officers are to meet at the Defense Ministry during the visit.

On the first day of the visit, Yilmaz is scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem. Yilmaz is expected to thank him for the support pro-Israel and Jewish organizations in Washington have demonstrated for Turkey.

An agreement on developing cooperation in agriculture is to be signed. The agreement will open the door for Israeli involvement in Turkey's \$32 billion southeastern Anatolia project, which aims to

bring prosperity to the disputed region in which Kurdish separatists have been fighting since 1984. Israel is expected to provide technology in agricultural and irrigation techniques for the project.

The Baku-Ceyhan pipe-line project to carry crude oil from Azeri to the international market also is on the agenda. Yilmaz is expected to request Israeli support for Turkey's proposals.

The visit also is to include a strategic briefing that will evaluate the current threats in the region to Turkey and Israel.

On his second day here, Yilmaz is scheduled to meet with President Ezer Weizman and with Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak in Jerusalem before travelling to Ramallah or Gaza for a session with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. On a trip to Turkey last month, Arafat urged Ankara to utilize its growing ties with Israel to move the peace process forward.

Kiryat Arba resident suspected of firing at Arab homes

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Renewed clashes erupted in Hebron last night, and a 13-year-old boy was injured by rubber bullets fired by IDF soldiers to disperse rioters, Palestinian sources said.

The IDF announced last night that the curfew on Hebron, in effect for ten days, was to be lifted at 4:00 a.m. today. It was imposed after the murder of Rabbi

Shlomo Ra'anani in Tel Rumeida. The closure of the city was lifted Friday, the IDF spokesman said.

Boaz Haetzni, 30, of Givat Harsina in Kiryat Arba who is suspected of firing shots Friday at Palestinian owned houses in the al-Arroub refugee camp was released from police custody yesterday.

Judea and Samaria Police Spokesman Opher Sivan said the investigation against the man, the son of prominent

settler activist Elyakim Haetzni, will continue.

Meanwhile, the acting Palestinian representative at the UN, Marwan Jilani, requested that the Security Council hold an urgent session about the Jerusalem Municipality's decision to build 132 housing units in the Ras al-Amud neighborhood of east Jerusalem, itim reported.

The British Foreign Office issued a

statement Friday voicing "concern" about the plans for Ras al-Amud and for new housing in the Golan Heights as well as other government backing of settlement activity. "We urge the Israeli government not to proceed with existing plans to expand settlements, and to prevent illegal activities by settlers," it said. Supporters of Jewish settlement in Ras al-Amud say that the project is being built on Jewish-owned land and has all

the necessary permits.

In al-Arroub, shortly after reports were received concerning shots fired at solar heaters on Palestinian homes, police and IDF forces arrived in the area. Sivan said that after receiving a description of the car and the person who allegedly fired the shots from Palestinians, police started searching the Kiryat Arba area.

A vehicle suiting the description was

found parked outside the suspect's home and the engine was still warm, said Sivan.

Tensions continue to be high in Hebron and there has been a rise in stonethrowing incidents and clashes with IDF troops following the government's announcement that it is allowing the building of permanent houses in Tel Rumeida and the approval of construction in Ras al-Amud.

Rajoub condemns TA bombing

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH, MOHAMMED NAJIB and LAMIA LAHOUD

West Bank Preventive Security Chief Jibril Rajoub has condemned the bombing Thursday in Tel Aviv that wounded 21 people, on the grounds that it targeted civilians and is against Palestinian Authority interests.

"We will have to live in the future with the relatives of people who get killed in terror attack[s]," he said yesterday during an interview with The Jerusalem Post.

Such attacks, he said are against the interest of the PA. "I spent 18 years in Israeli jails, for fighting the Israeli occupation, but never would I have aimed intentionally an attack at innocent civilians," Rajoub said.

Rajoub said he is doing his part to fight terrorism in areas under his control.

Referring to the murder of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anani in Hebron's Tel Rumeida compound, Rajoub said he did not understand how the murderer or murderers could enter Tel Rumeida in the Israeli-con-

trolled section of Hebron, carry out the murder, burn the rabbi's house and get away right under the IDF's nose.

He warned that there will be bloodshed in Hebron if Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu actually gives the order to build permanent housing in Tel Rumeida.

"Netanyahu should recharge his mental batteries and reconsider his concept of peace and security and his attitude towards the Palestinians," he said. Security can only be achieved through peace, he added.

Rajoub said he had set up an inquiry to investigate charges that his men beat up and attacked members of the Palestinian Legislative Council outside the El-Bireh home of Hamas fugitive Imad Awadallah.

He said the council members had the right to complain, but had no authority to remove him. Only Yasser Arafat could do so, he added.

The PA cabinet, meeting in Ramallah on Friday night, decided to establish its own investigation into the charges and punish those responsible.

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Historic NY temple damaged in fire

By Jerusalem Post Staff

NEW YORK — New York's 126-year-old Central Synagogue was severely damaged Friday when a worker's torch sparked a five-alarm fire that took 250 firefighters three hours to control.

The Moorish-style Reform temple, a landmark on the East Side's Lexington Avenue, was under renovation. There were no reported injuries.

Central is the oldest temple in New York state in continuous use by a single Jewish congregation. First started by Jews from Bohemia, it has 1,400 members.

The style of the building, designed in the 1870s by one of the first Jewish architects in the U.S., Prussian-born Henry Fombach, is known as Moorish revival, with two 37-meter minaret towers topped by bronze onion domes.

The roof was destroyed by fire, and the sanctuary apparently sustained heavy water damage.

Rabbi Peter Rubenstein rescued several Torah scrolls from the sanctuary.

Other Torahs and the synagogue's archives had been moved previously because of the renovation.

Neighborhood churches have offered the use of their facilities for the High Holidays, Rubenstein said.

The fire appears to have been an accident. It apparently started when a workman used a propane torch to solder copper flashing around air-conditioning ducts on the roof.



Firefighters battle a five-alarm fire on Friday as it rips through the historic Central Synagogue on Lexington Avenue at 55th Street in Manhattan. (AP)

Weizmann scientists learn how genes repair themselves

By JUDY SIEGEL

Biomedical researchers from the Weizmann Institute have discovered the mechanism for last-minute corrections of DNA defects caused by ultraviolet radiation and other environmental factors. Their findings, published in Friday's issue of the journal *Molecular Cell*, will provide scientists with new insights into diseases such as cancer and ways of treating bacterial infections.

Prof. Zvi Livneh of the Rehovot institute's biological chemistry department, with graduate students Nina Reuven and Guy Tomer, reconstructed this mechanism in a test tube and revealed how the "S.O.S. gene repair squad" does its job. They demonstrated how a little genetic material patched into just the right place can save the DNA from a genetic disaster, leaving behind a beneficial mutation that can improve an organism's chance of survival.

Although they conducted their basic research on *E. coli* bacteria, Livneh said yesterday that it was "highly likely" that the principles they discovered were relevant to animals and humans, as "these are fundamental processes of living things."

Their work, begun eight years ago, was supported by the U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation, the Israel Ministry of Science and the Weizmann

Institute's Forchheimer Center for Molecular Genetics.

DNA is regularly damaged by various factors in the environment, such as solar radiation and chemicals. This damage is normally corrected with the help of special proteins known as repair enzymes. But sometimes, these enzymes don't work properly and need help. For more than 20 years, scientists have known that aside from the regular repair enzymes, DNA has a last-minute correction mechanism, which has been referred to as the S.O.S. repair.

Livneh and his colleagues found that when damaged genetic material is not repaired, the defective section of the DNA — usually consisting of one or two letters of the genetic code — is simply deleted during replication and the rest of the DNA molecule shifts to fill in the gap. This produces a disastrous mutation that scrambles the genetic script and leads to the production of defective proteins that can cause cellular function to become chaotic. For example, such proteins can turn off the genes that suppress cancer, leading to the development of a tumor, or they can "kill" an essential protein, leading to apoptosis (cell death).

But when the S.O.S. repair squad appears, it replaces damaged DNA with random genetic material that acts as a spacer, keeping the DNA molecule in the proper alignment.

US trying to deport alleged ex-Nazi

By ANNE GEARAN

WASHINGTON (AP) — US government authorities began deportation proceedings this month against an elderly Illinois man accused of participating in a massacre of Jews at a Nazi slave labor camp, the Justice Department said Friday.

Bronislaw Hajda lost his US citizenship earlier this year, when a federal appeals court affirmed a lower court's finding that Hajda served as an armed guard at SS Training Camp Trawniki in the Treblinka labor camp in Nazi-occupied Poland from 1943 to 1945.

The court also found that Hajda lied about his World War II record and Nazi ties when applying for US citizenship in 1950.

His past would have made him ineligible to enter the United States and ineligible for citizenship.

The Justice Department's Nazi hunters, called the Office of Special Investigations, and Chicago immigration authorities filed charging documents Aug. 7 with the immigration court in Chicago. Hajda, 74, a retired factory worker living in Schiller Park, Illinois, is likely to have a deportation hearing soon, lawyers said.

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Russia PM must juggle demands of West, Duma

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Viktor Chernomyrdin is, as the Russians say, a man caught "between two fires."

As economic crisis rages, the acting prime minister must allay the fears of Western creditors that Russia is about to reverse its six-year flirtation with capitalism and retreat into its Soviet-era bunker of draconian state controls.

But Chernomyrdin, whose close ties with Russia's powerful business elite, or "oligarchs," have often brought into question his commitment to market reforms, must also persuade the populist-minded parliament to confirm him as prime minister.

The State Duma lower house, dominated by the opposition Communists, wants him to print money to help fund domestic

industry, the troubled banking system and social welfare.

In recent days, his camp has sent out conflicting signals about which way Chernomyrdin's new cabinet might lean.

But some analysts say he has little option over the medium term but to resume the path of his hapless predecessor, Sergei Kiriyenko.

"The question is how quickly they understand this," economist Alasdair Breach of the Russian-European Center for Economic Policy in Moscow said. "If they try to turn the clock back to full state control of the economy, things will fall apart so fast they will have to switch course."

An aide to Chernomyrdin told reporters that the former gas industry chief, who

served President Boris Yeltsin loyally as prime minister for five years until his dismissal in March, had not minced his words with the Duma deputies.

The gist of Chernomyrdin's message, he said, was: "If you don't back me and if we don't pursue tough International Monetary Fund (IMF)-backed policies, the country will simply implode."

With Russia's state coffers virtually empty and the ruble in steep decline, the IMF and major Western nations have made clear there will be no external financial help without urgent and painful reforms.

"We are already part of the world economy and there will be no return to the past," Chernomyrdin said in televised remarks yesterday, adding his government would not halt the ruble's internal convertibility or shut currency exchange outlets.

ANALYSIS

By GARETH JONES

His comments, which also included a pledge to safeguard citizens' savings, appeared aimed at assuaging the fears of both Western lenders and ordinary Russians who have besieged banks to withdraw their money.

"This is the first encouraging news this week," said Breach.

But the acting premier has given no details about his anti-crisis plan and his own fate hinges on Duma approval.

A vote is likely either tomorrow or Tuesday after the acting government, parliament and Yeltsin's representatives reach a deal involving some kind of trade-off between economic policy and political support.

Western lenders and governments fear that Chernomyrdin, politically hostage to the Communists, will resort to the printing presses to keep insolvent banks and companies afloat and to pay impoverished state sector workers and pensioners.

Such a course would spark hyperinflation, the ruble's collapse, an accelerated exodus of capital and the rapid paralysis of the entire economy, experts say.

Yuri Luzhkov, the influential mayor of Moscow, attacked Russia's past efforts under Chernomyrdin and Kiriyenko to

pursue a monetarist policy, saying it had throttled domestic industry.

"Monetarism has buried the real sector of the economy," said Luzhkov, echoing a frequent Communist complaint.

Liberal critics of the government say Russia's problems reflect a lack - not an excess - of reforms, noting that while Moscow has kept a tight monetary policy, the gains have been erased by a very loose fiscal policy and failure to tackle chronic tax dodging.

Breach said even talking about stoking the money supply was dangerous, because it created inflationary expectations that would put further pressure on the ruble.

Andrei Piontkovsky of the Center for Strategic Studies said Chernomyrdin was unlikely to improve matters.

Bonnie heads to sea, new hurricane threatens

JACKSONVILLE, N.C.

(Reuters) - Once a powerful hurricane, Tropical Storm Bonnie headed into the north Atlantic yesterday as another potentially dangerous storm, Hurricane Danielle, churned farther south in the Atlantic.

Life was slowly returning to normal along Carolina and Virginia beaches, where Bonnie damaged oceanfront homes and caused some flooding but caused no major destruction after making landfall at North Carolina's Cape Fear Wednesday.

When it hit land, a 12-year-old North Carolina girl was killed when a tree fell on her home, and a 50-year-old man was electrocuted fixing a generator in South Carolina.

"We definitely dodged the bullet on Bonnie, and that's the third bullet we've dodged in two years,"

South Carolina emergency spokesman Joe Farber said, referring to two destructive hurricanes in 1996 - Bertha and Fran - that also hit Cape Fear but spared South Carolina from major damage.

"What we're hoping for now is to dodge that fourth bullet," Farber said of Danielle, which was expected to remain on a course similar to the one Bonnie took, and then veer north and out to sea before making landfall.

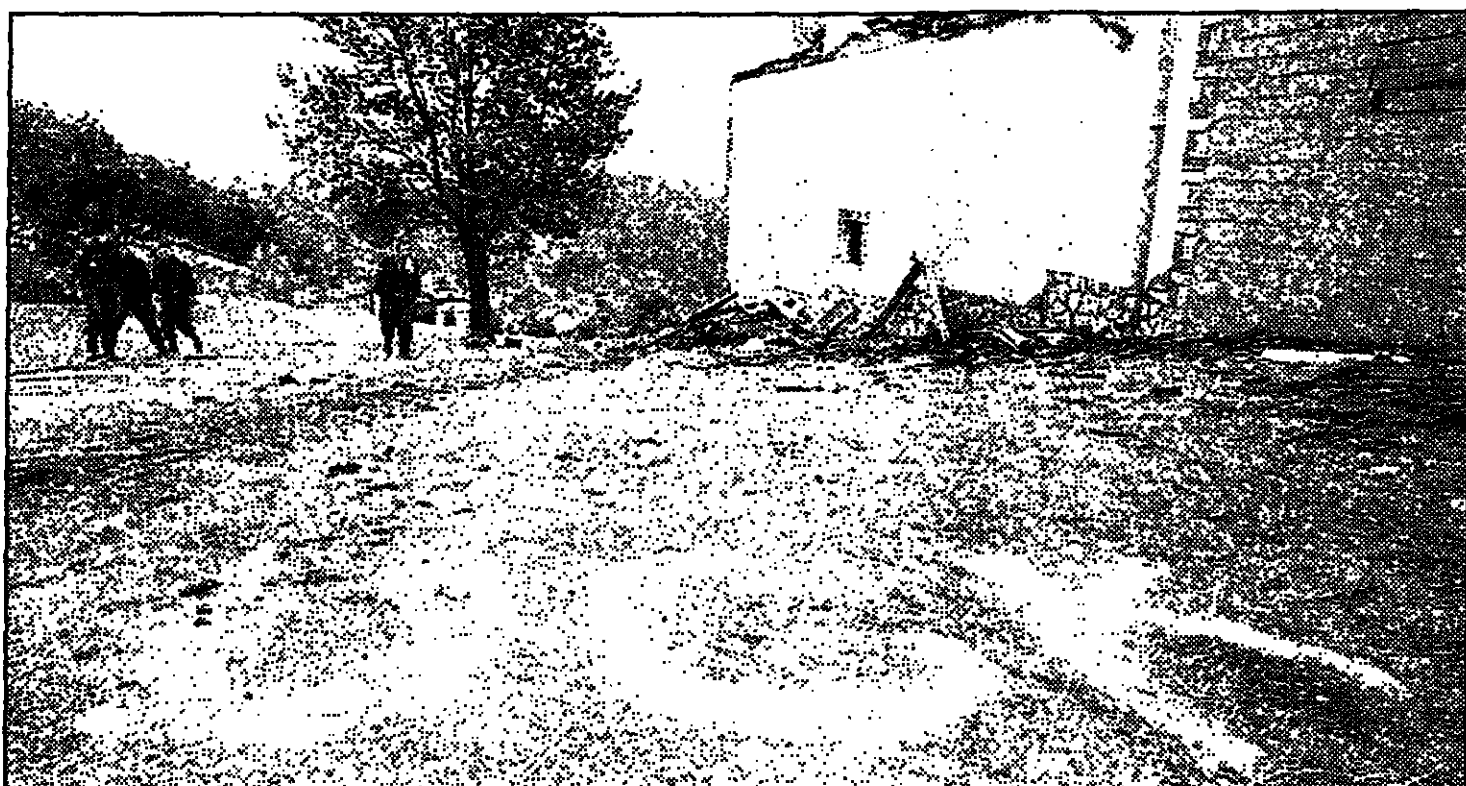
The storm was traveling west-northwest at 22 kilometers an hour and expected to turn back out to sea off the Carolina coast after running into a high-altitude jet

stream current, forecasters said.

Danielle had sustained winds of 145 kilometers an hour sustained winds, but the hurricane force winds were only blowing 56 km. from the storm's center. By comparison, Bonnie had hurricane force winds 185 km. from its center when it made landfall.

Bonnie was a fickle storm, drifting inland and weakening into a tropical storm after making landfall Wednesday, then regaining hurricane strength and battering the southeast Virginia coast before moving back out to sea.

In North Carolina, sections of Topsail Beach, hardest hit by Fran, reported that 65 percent of the dunes - many constructed in Fran's wake to protect oceanfront homes - were leveled by Bonnie.



Serb policemen walk by damaged houses near the village of Klecka. Human remains allegedly belonging to a group of Serb civilians that disappeared two months were discovered close to the village. The word 'UCK' on the ground represents the Albanian initials for the KLA (Kosovo Liberation Army).

(AP)

Greek Orthodox leader accused of militant meddling

ATHENS (AP) - He's supposed to be a messenger of peace.

But the leader of the Greek Orthodox Church is sounding more like a general preparing for battle.

"We are ready, if necessary, to shed blood and make sacrifices. We, as a church, pray for peace... But we bless the sacred weapons when the moment demands it," Archbishop Christodoulos said recently on the Assumption of the Virgin holy day, which doubles as Greece's armed forces day.

In the nearly four months since his enthronement, Christodoulos,

59, has peppered Greeks with feisty opinions on everything from economic affairs to the dream of reclaiming lands from the "barbaric" Turks and others.

Initially viewed as a reformer who might modernize the church, Christodoulos has become a darling of the far right. The ultra-nationalist newspaper Stohos dubbed him "Archbishop Thunderbolt." His stormy comments reach far beyond the pulpit.

Orthodox leaders have traditionally enjoyed deep respect as keepers of an essential element of

the Greek ethnic identity during four centuries of Moslem Ottoman rule. The church helped fan the 1821 independence revolt.

But boasting about the past is not the same as chiming in on current affairs, critics say.

Christodoulos could be inflaming nationalist fervor at a highly sensitive time. Plans by Greek Cypriots to deploy anti-aircraft missiles on their part of Cyprus are heightening tensions between Greece and neighboring Turkey, whose troops occupy the northern third of the divided Mediterranean island.

Police allege Kosovo Albanians burned Serbs in crematory

By MISHA SAVIC

BELGRADE (AP) - Serbian police said yesterday they had discovered a crematory in southern Kosovo where ethnic Albanians allegedly had burned the bodies of at least 22 Serb civilians.

The police statement, carried by the official Tanjug news agency, said the furnace, allegedly used to destroy the bodies of civilians killed by the rebels, was found in the village of Klecka, recently retaken by government forces.

The allegation, the latest in a series of claims of brutality and atrocities by both sides, could not be independently confirmed.

On Friday, Serb forensic workers retrieved the bones of 10 Serb civilians, two of them children, who officials said were executed by the Kosovo Liberation Army.

The workers found skulls and other charred human bones, includ-

ing a pelvis and part of a backbone with bits of singed clothing on it. Associated Press Television captured footage of the human remains.

A statement issued swiftly yesterday by the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry urged foreign countries "to cut all sources of financing, recruitment, training, arming" to the rebels in light of the allegations.

KLA rebels are fighting to win independence for Kosovo, a Serbian province where 90 percent of the population is ethnic Albanian. Serbia is the dominant of two republics that make up the remainder of Yugoslavia.

Also Friday, Albanian officials accused the Serbs of killing 17 peo-

ple in the same region, near the main road linking Pristina, the capital, to Prizren, about 45 miles southwest. UN officials said they saw eight bodies, including an infant and a 4-year-old boy who had been decapitated during Serb shelling.

During the six months of fighting in Kosovo - a war that has killed hundreds and driven tens of thousands of people from their homes - both sides have accused each other of a wide range of atrocities. The Kosovo Information Center claims that the Serbs have singled out women and children in their attacks, while Serbs allege that rebels have gone from house to house forcing out families.

The alleged crematory was found based on testimony from two captured rebel fighters, Ljup and Bekim Mazreku, who told police that in July alone, 22 Serbs as well as some Albanians loyal to Serbian authorities were killed. It was not clear if the Albanians also were cremated.

Serbian police and Yugoslav army troops have purged KLA fighters from much of the at least 30% of Kosovo territory the rebels once controlled.

Violent clashes continue, however, and the Serb-run Media Center in Pristina said that seven "terrorists" were killed yesterday morning in a shootout with police in Kline, western Kosovo.

Nonaligned summit opens in S. Africa

DURBAN, South Africa (AP) - The Nonaligned Movement should defend weak countries against domination by strong ones, South Africa's foreign minister said yesterday as he opened a summit of the 113-member group.

Welcoming ambassadors and senior officials to the 12th summit of the Nonaligned Movement, Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo said it should ensure that it places the interests and ambitions of the poor firmly on the agenda of the international communi-

Fifty-two heads of state have confirmed they are attending, among them Congo President Laurent Kabila, the South African Press Association reported. The heads of state were to meet on Wednesday and Thursday.

Kabila, backed by troops from Angola, Zimbabwe and Namibia, is locked in a war against rebels allegedly backed by Rwanda and Uganda. On Friday, a spokesman for the rebels' Congolese Rally for Democracy said a rebel delegation would attend the summit, SAPA reported.

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Hundreds bring flowers to mark the anniversary of Diana's death

LONDON (AP) - Hundreds of people laid bouquets at Kensington Palace, Princess Diana's former home, yesterday, two days before the first anniversary of the princess's death.

Newspapers added to the anticipation surrounding tomorrow's commemoration, publishing vast story and picture spreads about Diana and her family.

Despite a poll indicating that only six percent of Britons plan to observe the anniversary, people came to Kensington Palace steadily, and bunches of flowers were once more balanced on the palace railings.

But it was a trickle compared with the hundreds of thousands who turned the area into a sea of flowers in the week after the 36-year-old princess was killed in a car crash in Paris.

"Everyone can remember what they were doing a year ago when she died," said 15-year-old Victoria Ivins, who came with a girlfriend from Reigate, 32 kilometers south of central London. "I simply cried and watched the television for a week."

Rita Young, 51, who brought flowers from her home in Reading, 50 km. west of London, said she still felt just as sad. "The pain hasn't left my heart."

Newspapers, from tabloids to the higher-brow broadsheets, carried thousands of words both in their news pages and weekend magazine sections.

Tomorrow is also a national holiday - held on the last Monday in August every year, unrelated to Diana's death.

For weeks, there has been a gradual buildup of pictures of Diana and of her sons, Prince William, 16, and Prince Harry, 13, in glossy



A young girl places flowers at the gate of Kensington Palace in London yesterday in advance of the anniversary of the death of Princess Diana. (AP)

magazines and newspapers.

Yesterday, some newspapers also carried pictures of Camilla Parker Bowles, 51, the longtime love of Prince Charles and the woman Diana blamed for the breakdown of her marriage, which ended in divorce in 1996.

Forty-six percent of Britons still oppose the idea of Charles, 49, marrying the divorced Parker

Bowles, according to a poll by National Opinion Poll for a London newspaper, *The Express*.

But that was down from 57% disapproval in a similar survey before Diana's death. *The Express* reported under the headline, "Why Camilla has reasons to be cheerful."

Nearly 80% agreed that Diana's memory "should be left alone"

after this week.

The Express did not say how many people were questioned or give a margin of error - typically plus or minus three percentage points for such surveys.

Parker Bowles now regularly spends nights at St. James's Palace, Charles' London residence, and Highgrove, his country house, according to newspaper reports.

Kabila troops mop up in Kinshasa, rebels flee

KINSHASA, Congo (Reuters) - Government forces mopped up rebel infiltrators in the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo yesterday while humanitarian sources reported a stream of wounded and fleeing rebels escaping across the Congo river.

Business sources in the Congo river port of Matadi 350 km. southwest of Kinshasa said the rebels had withdrawn and pro-government Angolan troops had entered the town.

Having declared victory yesterday over the Tutsi-led rebels in the battle for Kinshasa, Congolese forces loyal to President Laurent Kabila continued operations around the capital, occasionally resorting to heavy weapons.

The renewed shooting in the eastern suburbs, which died down towards evening, prompted an exodus of residents clutching their

belongings and heading towards the safer center of the city.

A coalition of Congolese, Zimbabwean, Angolan and Namibian troops have turned the tide in the month-old rebellion that exposed yawning rifts in the region and threatened to spark a full-scale regional war.

Kabila, who accuses former allies Rwanda and Uganda of backing and equipping the rebels, was absent from Kinshasa.

The two countries, which helped Kabila overthrow veteran dictator Mobutu Sese Seko in May last year, deny the charge but have reserved the right to intervene in the interests of their national security.

In Kinshasa, a city of five million people entering its fourth night under a dusk to dawn curfew, loyalist forces were out in strength conducting house to

house searches for rebels.

Residents reported that normalcy was gradually returning to the parts of the capital that had been most affected by the street fighting that began after dawn on Wednesday.

Outside the capital the fate of the rebels was unclear. They still hold the strategic Inga hydroelectric dam that supplies the capital of the former Zaire with power, and an Angolan army captain said on Friday they had threatened to demolish it unless guaranteed safe conduct. Some rebels were also reported to be crossing to safety in the neighboring Congo Republic southwest of the capital Brazzaville.

Elsewhere, the rebels claimed to be in control in the east and center of Africa's third largest country, and still to be holding the strategic city of Kisangani.

War worsens Congo street kids' plight

KINSHASA, Congo (AP) - On

mean streets, where tempers flare and garbage rots, barefoot Domain Luminda picks his way past the smoldering bodies of three executed rebels in downtown Kinshasa.

With a hand covering his nose and mouth to ward off the stench of burnt hair and flesh, the young boy gazes at one victim, its face frozen in a twisted, lifeless grimace.

A homeless street kid, Domain's life in this impoverished city has never been better than a struggle for survival. Now, war batters Kinshasa's suburbs, lynch mobs roam downtown neighborhoods and death is a brutal reality for a nine-year-old boy.

From the other side of Kinshasa's June 30th Boulevard, Domain and two of his buddies watched yesterday morning when a truck filled

with troops pulled up and unloaded three captives.

"They had tires pushed over their bodies and the soldiers began to kick them and hit them with their rifles," Domain said in slow, apprehensive words. "They shot one of them, and he fell. The other man's head split open, and they set him on fire."

By mid-afternoon, the bodies of the rebels, suspected members of a coalition force trying to oust President Laurent Kabila, were still on a sidewalk of one of Kinshasa's busiest streets. Smoke curled up from one body.

In the Kinganshi and Masina districts near the airport, decaying corpses littered the streets, Health Minister Jean-Baptiste Soudji said. "It's a terrible scene of bodies here and there," he said.

In the heart of Kinshasa, govern-

ment troops hunted for insurgents. Most people have sought shelter at home, avoiding the worst of the conflict. But for the homeless children who work pedestrian crowds for a handful, back alleys and side street cubby holes are their only refuge.

Thirteen-year-old Heritier Kafoti and his gang of 13 other boys are only slightly more fortunate. A Belgian expatriate lets the boys sleep on the ground outside his home, in a tiny courtyard by the trash heap. Each morning, the boys fold up their beds of broken cardboard boxes and climb over the fence to the street.

"I know something's going on," says a shivering Heritier, scratching at a sore on his thigh below grubby, cut off jeans. "But nobody tells us what it is."

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How a conductor wins respect

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

When conductor Yuri Ahronovitch, 65, was asked in a master class who is the best manager for conductors, he realized something was amiss.

"The young conductors of today think first and foremost about their career instead of actually thinking about what really matters, which is their artistry and musicianship," he says with a sigh.

The Russian-born Ahronovitch, who lives in Jerusalem but works mostly abroad, was invited a year ago to the charming resort of Riva del Garda, at the northern shore of the Lago di Garda in north Italy. There, in a very popular tourist spot, where majestic mountain peaks surround the lake, a new summer festival was inaugurated.

The Musica Riva Festival aims to feature young musicians in concerts, after initial master classes with some of the leading musicians in the world. Ahronovitch, very eager to pass on some of his extensive experience, was happy to join and did not limit the number of participants in his classes.

He ended up with 40-plus conductors, "only four of whom were really good. So when I was asked to return this summer I told them I will accept conductors only after seeing a video of their work with an orchestra."

After this initial screening, Ahronovitch chose 14 conductors, who came from all over the world to his course. The rest were welcome to attend, but only to listen.

The program chosen for Ahronovitch was, above all, Russian. Last year it was the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth symphonies by Tchaikovsky, while this summer it was Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony and Prokofiev's First Piano Concerto.

"I want to return next year as well, but only if I can do non-Russian repertoire," he says.

The conductors he chose had morning sessions with a youth orchestra and afternoon sessions of corrections, in which they worked with two pianists. Ahronovitch watched, corrected, advised, but almost never conducted.

"Many told me that they would prefer to see me conduct and learn from that, but that is wrong and misses the entire point. The idea of such a course is that they will work

and that I will help them."

Ahronovitch had to teach two basic things: technique and etiquette.

"The first thing a conductor has to say at the beginning of a rehearsal is 'good morning' and after the rehearsal he should thank the orchestra. That's basic, but very few of these youngsters even thought about it. They were actually shocked by the mere idea and by the fact that I spent time to talk about that."

As for technique, "We have talented conductors but there are very few good, thorough teachers, so no one can teach them technique, which is the basis of everything. But the young conductors of today miss the basics; it's an international malady which probably also has to do with the time we live in."

He sighs again. "There used to be a time when only a few conductors would dare to touch Stravinsky's *Le Sacre du Printemps*, for example, before they were mature and experienced. Today every young conductor thinks he can do this work."

He says the best way to get results in such a short period is shock treatment. "I'm like a doctor, I have to shock my patient from the word go, then we climb out of there."

He conducts very little in Israel, but doesn't explain why. Yet he believes that "there should be a conductors' course in Israel. We are considered a leading musical nation all over the world. Someone should do something for young conductors before it is too late."

If someone would only ask, Ahronovitch would be the first to oblige. Otherwise he will continue to spend his time in Israel in the beautiful spacious apartment he shares with his Israeli-born wife Tami, his family and friends, enjoying life between concert engagements in Europe.

He notes that whenever the occasion allows, he enjoys a glass of good whiskey or vodka. But only with friends, never with colleagues.

"At the end of the course there was a party, but I only drank champagne with my students and wished them luck. I don't like to drink with students because when you drink who knows what you might say."

"I also told them to never be friends with the orchestra. A conductor is a personality, an authoritative figure – otherwise you will never get respect."



Conductor Yuri Ahronovitch relaxes in his Jerusalem apartment.

(File photo: Jacqueline Aza/Media)

NEWS

of the muse

Gesher cited for quality theater

The Gesher Theater has received a Quality Project Award within the framework of National Quality Week, September 6-10. A board chosen for the purpose determines recipients of the awards, given to outstanding projects in society, the economy and the arts. Gesher was cited for innovation, quality and creativity. Gesher, established in 1990, is headed by director Yevgeny Arye and its repertoire includes the award-winning *Kfar* by Yehoshua Sobol as well as run-away hits such as *Tales of the City* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. The awards ceremony is September 8.

Helen Kaye

Gershwin in the Cellar

September 26 is the centenary of George Gershwin's birth. He died of a brain tumor in 1937, but he left a superb musical legacy which includes *Porgy and Bess*, *Rhapsody in Blue*, *An American in Paris*, and close to 1,000 songs, most with lyrics by his brother Ira Gershwin.

Saxophonist and producer Shlomi Goldenberg plays tribute to his genius with Gershwin Month at Beit Lessin's Upper Celler from September 2 to 29. Highlights include an evening of Gershwin songs from singers Judy Behar, Dani Sagi and Emanuel Rodriguez, backed by Goldenberg and his combo, Turkish pianist Aydin Esen on Gershwin (September 16), and lush-voiced Elisheva Bat-Israel sings *Porgy and Bess* and other songs on September 23.

Helen Kaye

Humor Festival in Beersheba

They say laughter is the best medicine, so comedians such as Orna Banai, Tuvia Tsafir, Avi Kuschit, Moni Moshonov and Shlomo Barabai will do their best to prove it at the first Israel Humor Festival, in Beersheba from October 6 to 8 during Hol Hamoed Succot. The best of the country's funny people will present a program of sketches, stand-up comedy, comic songs, satire, slapstick and more. The NIS 3 million budget comes from the Beersheba Municipality, the Jubilee Association, and the ministries of Education and Tourism, among others. There's one program for Yiddish speakers with wonderful veteran Yankel, Bodo and Alperin, but the rest is in Hebrew, which has to be good enough to follow shows such as a salute to the late, great Shaike Ophir, the best of Moshonov and Barabai, or the opening revue *Israel Laughs*, which stars impressionist Tsafir, who takes us on a comedic journey through Israel's first 50 years.

Helen Kaye

Videoclip competition in Haifa

There are 15 competitors shortlisted for the 12th Videoclip Competition finals to be held at the Haifa Film Festival between October 5 and 10. The clips, produced to promote Israeli songs, are all locally made and directed. The winners will be chosen on artistic and film merits and by popular vote via the IBA's *Made in Israel* program. One of the finalists is Dana International's Eurovision winner, *Diva*.

Helen Kaye

Tel Aviv fringe gets longer

The Fringe Center at ZOA House and Tzavta in Tel Aviv has added three new productions, two of them dance theater: Ruth Ziv-Eyal's haunting *Magroosim*, an allegory using stones, and prize-winning *The Alley of White Chairs* by Gabi Eldar and Yigal Ezrati, another allegory, on coexistence. The third piece is *Peep Show*, a risqué burlesque. The Fringe resumes activity September 1.

Helen Kaye

Jerusalem Lyric Trio performs in S. America

The Jerusalem Lyric Trio – soprano Amalia Ishak, Wendy Eisler-Kashy on flute and pianist Allan Stemfeld – represented Israel at the Encounters Festival in Buenos Aires last week, the first Israeli ensemble to be invited to the 30-year-old festival. The program included Gil Shohar's *Bright Water* and Dina Smorganski's *If I Should Forget You*, *O Jerusalem* both commissioned by JLT. JLT also performed at other venues in Argentina and Uruguay on behalf of WIZO for the jubilee.

Helen Kaye

Piano virtuoso Horowitz's wife dies

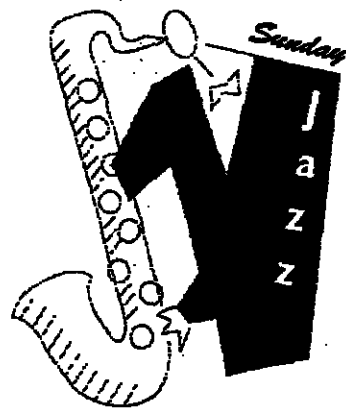
Wanda Toscanini Horowitz, the daughter of conductor Arturo Toscanini who helped guide her husband, Vladimir Horowitz, through his turbulent career as a piano virtuoso, has died. She was 90.

Mrs. Horowitz died at her Manhattan home on August 21. The cause of death was not immediately known. When she met Horowitz at age 25, she was smitten. "In the first place he was good-looking," she recalled. "And his playing! I heard him play in a house after a concert. He played a Chopin mazurka and I remember I went home and said, 'I never heard anybody play a mazurka of Chopin like this.'"

Their marriage lasted for 55 years, a period when Horowitz was hailed as the greatest pianist of all time.

When Horowitz died, Leonard Bernstein paid tribute to Mrs. Horowitz. The pianist Mordecai Shehori, who knew the couple in their later years, said Mrs. Horowitz was a musical connoisseur in her own right, and kept a number of pieces from being issued on his last recording that she thought were not as good as others. AP

When 'Love' is aimless between the covers



By David Isaacson

Lee Ritenour's version of Fauré's "Pavane" is '90s music at its best. Whereas Bill Evans' fine but somewhat spartan '50s-style adaptation of this classical fave featured Evans' veer between nice and aimless.



Lee Ritenour

This *Is Love* is named after Bob Marley's "Is This Love," from which it takes a generous sample – another milestone in the great Rasta's wide and ongoing influence. It also pays tribute to Sonny Rollins, opening with his *Swinging Sixties* title track to the film *Alfie*, and reprising the theme as a surprising and climactic conclusion to Rollins' "Street Runner."

In between, Lisa Fischer lends her powerful voice to a funky rendition of Randy Newman's steamy "Baltimore."

It's understandable that Ritenour – who is a top-class player, an intelligent arranger and a wonderful bandleader – wants to play his own work. But if his next disc consists entirely of covers, then it will be really worth hearing.

LAST year, Verve introduced its "Ultimate" series of female singers' greatest hits as chosen by either a contemporary or a current vocalist. Now it has expanded this excellent idea to incorporate five leading jazzmen. One of the best of the new discs is *Ultimate Clifford Brown*, selected by Nicholas Payton.

Payton's choices bring tragic trumpeter Brown's work to vivid life. Given Brown's association with the singularly fast, hard-bop genre, Payton has done very well to portray on a broad canvas the rounded, mature musician who was so highly regarded before he died in a car crash at the age of 25 in 1956.

Ultimate Clifford Brown shows that, in addition to the full sound which characterized his solos, Brown had the character and talent to lead beautifully resonant sup-

port to singers Dinah Washington ("I've Got You Under My Skin"), Helen Merrill ("Don't Explain") and, as a poignant final cut, Kurt Weill's "September Song" with the divine Sarah Vaughan.

The outstanding track, "Delilah," used to be a standard. (Check out Ramsey Lewis's gorgeous version on *Gentlemen of Jazz*.) Letting Harold Land's tenor sax carry the melody and, playing above Max Roach's soft, slick drums, and George Morrow's sleazy bass, Brown instills both passion and a sense of narrative.

Elsewhere he turns Cole Porter's "I Get a Kick Out of You" inside out, is more reverential to the trad swing of Benny Goodman on "Stompin' at the Savoy," and fronts a gushy string section with sensitivity – and some amazing phrases – on Hoagy Carmichael's "Star Dust."

My one caveat is the '50s fondness for drum solos. Though Roach keeps them short, their frequency is a drawback to this otherwise brilliant compilation.

PAYTON's own new album is a more difficult affair.

Following his memorable participation in Robert Altman's jazz movie *Kansas City*, and last year's brilliant Herbie Hancock tribute *Fingerpainting* with Christian McBride and Mark Whitfield, Nicholas Payton goes it alone on *Payton's Place*. Nine of the 12 tracks on this, his third album as bandleader, are Payton originals.

Only 24, Payton is an accomplished trumpeter, and some tracks, such as the grooving opening cut, "Zigabogaloo," show his promise as a songwriter. Other exciting moments include a musical conversation with guests Wynton Marsalis and Roy Hargrove on "The Three Trumpeters"; a seamless segue from a bluesy piano solo into an understated tenor sax line on "People Make the World Go Round"; and a rousing climax to the languid "L.I. Duke's Strut."

Hard-core modern-jazz fans will appreciate Payton's willingness to explore new ideas and adapt the free sounds of the likes of Wayne Shorter (exemplified by a 9-1/2 minute version of "Paraphernalia").

Personally I could do with less technique, and more warmth and accessibility. Though it certainly behooves a young, gifted musician to expand his range, older listeners need a few more hooks.

A DIY rocker

Sabra Sounds



By Shai Tsaur

I suppose you should give Yossi Gavrieli credit for having the guts to make a major mid-life career change.

Until two years ago, the fortysomething Gavrieli was your average Israeli businessman, husband, and father. But one day he decided "to dedicate his life to

of relationships and of lovers forced to deal with each other honestly. A number of the tracks ("I Went to the Sea," "The Sea is Quiet," "Sea of Love") use the beach as a metaphor for an emotional state, balanced between euphoria and depression.

While not remarkable, Gavrieli's singing voice is fairly solid for someone who last performed 20 years ago in an IDF musical troupe. He takes his musical cues from Danny Litani, using a similar – but more melodic – low rumble. Gavrieli's occasional attempts to cop Litani's signature phrasings fall flat, however, since he lacks the musical presence to pull it off.

The disc's biggest problem is the musical arrangement. Gavrieli's backing band seems to have been cryogenically frozen in 1984 and only recently defrosted. A song like "Tipshuologia" (loosely translated, "Stupidology"), an interesting attack on pop psychology as an answer to dealing with relationships, is sunk by the band's clichéd 4/4 rhythms and screaming electric guitar.

On other tracks, the band goes to Chris Rea land, with the same mellow saxophone and guitar solos which sounded dated the last time Rea himself used them. Gavrieli does get some points for utilizing the slide guitar (an instrument rarely heard in Israeli rock) on the title track.

On the whole, the most one can say of *Sea of Love* is that it's a perfectly OK album. Gavrieli gives a slightly different take on the love song and sings acceptably.

According to his Web site, he plans to put out more discs by himself in the future. If he can find a way to refine his musical style a bit, he might just have something.

IN A SEA OF LOVE
(BEYAM SHELI AHAVA)
Yossi Gavrieli

love and art" and set out on a new, musical road.

Gavrieli's debut album, *Beyam Sheli Ahava* ("In a Sea of Love"), is the result of this decision. Gavrieli has opted for the do-it-yourself route with his disc. He recorded it without the backing of a disc company and is marketing the disc with a chunky, apparently homemade Web site (www.gavrieli.co.il).

In *A Sea of Love* presents Gavrieli's own take on local adult contemporary music. The dozen songs deal with love, but written from the perspective of someone older and possibly wiser than Aviv Gefen's "screwed-up generation."

Instead of idealizing love, Gavrieli sings about the problems

TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS LAST WEEK	WEEK	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	1	EVAL GOLAN	CHAYAL SHELI AHAVA
#2	2	EMMA SHAPPLIN	CARMINE MEO
#3	3	DANA INTERNATIONAL	WOW
#4	4	HASMACHIT	HASMACHOT
#5	5	VIA	HITMAN 9
#6	6	VIA	JUBILEE CELEBRATION
#7	7	BOAZ SHARABI	KESHEAT NOGA'AT BI
#8	8	ALABINA	ALABINA
#9	9	EVAL BARKAN	BOKER TOV ISRAEL
#10	10	VIA	BOYS & GIRLS 2
#11	11	HAYEHUDIM	HAYEHUDIM 2
#12	12	HAIM MOSHE	HATMUNOT SHEBAALBOM
#13	13	EVAL GOLAN	BELADAYCH
#14	14	VIA	SUMMER PARTY 98
#15	15	VIA	

Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week

LIBI - The Fund For Strengthening Israel's Defense

Cornerstone For New Orthopedic Clinic

In a ceremony held this week, the cornerstone of a new, highly advanced IDF Orthopedic Clinic was laid in the presence of LIBI Fund Chairman, Gen. (res.) Danny Matt; LIBI Commander, Col. Meir Bleyer; Chief Medical Officer, Brig.-Gen. Arye Eldad; and a group of medical officers. The clinic will be ready for use by the end of 1999.

The construction of the new clinic was made possible by a very generous contribution to the IDF from the estate of the late Leib Greenberg.

In his address, the Chief Medical Officer said that with the building of the new clinic, "we are striding forward into the 21st century."



(Right to left) – LIBI Fund Chairman, Gen. (res.) Danny Matt and Chief Medical Officer, Brig.-Gen. Arye Eldad

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Ramat Gan, Jerusalem 91000
Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9577, CIRCULATION - 02-531-5610, 1-800-222-2778, Fax 02-538-9017, ADVERTISING -
02-531-5608, 02-531-5638-40 Fax 02-538-9408, TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, POB 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333,
Fax 03-6390277. Published daily except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Jerusalem Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press
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OPINION

Back to school

DANIEL BLOCH

Every year, in mid-to-late August, we witness the annual ritual of threats to prevent the opening of the school year. And this year, as always, teachers' strikes, parents' boycotts, local political fighting are once again in the news.

Then comes the first of September and the school year begins on schedule. Some interim solutions are found until the next season. In the mean time our education system deteriorates more and more each year.

Israel's only natural resource is our brain power. Its neglect now will be felt only 20 or 30 years from now, when the influence of the good years of the system, combined with the high motivation for education of the Russian immigrants, will disappear and we will remain with the disastrous neglect of the present situation. Continuous educational neglect is difficult to repair quickly. And Israel, facing the challenges of the decades to come, needs a high level of education in order to strengthen its economy, preserve its security and improve the standard of living and quality of life for all its inhabitants.

Education is the secret weapon of our survival and well-being. Education means general knowledge, and understanding our heritage as well as the power to express ourselves and communicate within the framework of a democratic and tolerant society.

This is the basis, but it is not enough. Education must give all students the basic tools to maximize their ability and potential in this dramatic ever-changing world.

They need an excellent knowledge of English, the language of modern

science, communication and hi-tech and they must have excellent basic training in math and science in order to be able to adapt easily to the evolving needs of the market place, the employment opportunities and the sociological environment.

IS OUR education system geared to meet these challenges? Not at all. The Rabin government tried to start an educational revolution, especially during the tenure of Amnon Rubinstein as minister of education.

The present government had reset the order of priorities. In so doing, it took money away from real education and diverted it to politically and ideologically motivated budgets that have nothing to do with improving the level of education and bridging the gaps in Israeli society.

The first education minister of this government, the late Zevulun Hammer, knew in the past how to separate between his role as minister of education for all of society

We need to encourage the gifted and talented, to promote excellence and not neglect any segment of society

and his political and ideological agenda, representing a religious political party.

Sadly most of the time he could not function efficiently because of his ill health. His successor, Yitzhak Levy, has not yet learned the art of this vital separation. Although he speaks in a very tolerant manner, his actions show that he is only motivated by political aspirations: He wants to use his ministry's budget as a tool for increasing the electorate of his party via a vis Shas and the haredi factions. The real problems are left to the same bureaucratic system that has already caused extensive damage to our education system.

In order to meet the educational challenges of the next century we do not need more budgets. We need a completely different division of the funds according to educational, not political, priorities.

We need smaller classes in every school. With more than 40 children in most classes, when the maximum should be 30, the best teacher cannot function efficiently and give his utmost while even the best student cannot concentrate. Next, we need to attract better-qualified and better-compensated teachers.

The budget is there. We must allocate it differently, based on pure educational criteria as defined by professionals. It is also necessary to

Dry Bones



curtail the fat bureaucracy of the ministry and local authorities, cut the legions of inspectors and supervisors by 90% and give each school full autonomy, based on minimum national guidelines.

We need to encourage the gifted and talented, to promote excellence and not neglect any segment of society. Investment in education is the investment in our future and it has to be done with vision, knowledge and compassion, without any political distortion or religious and ideological bias.

Unfortunately the chances of change under this minister's regime are extremely remote, unless the public wakes up.

Russia battles for stability

While the world waits with bated breath to see what re-appointed Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin intends to do about the economic disaster in his country, it is worth remembering that the Netherlands has a bigger economy than Russia and the real economic crisis remains in Asia.

But the worries over Russia are substantial and warranted because the crisis there has added a serious political dimension to the global economic turmoil. Russia may be relatively unimportant economically in world markets, but it is tremendously important politically. If, as no longer appears so unlikely, the country were to turn back to centralized economics run by a powerful new president, the West in general and the United States in particular would probably see the new order as potentially threatening in an old-style Russian way, encouraging the Pentagon to make shrill new demands for defense spending. That would spell the end of the post-Cold War peace dividend that has sent American business and stock markets through the roof since 1991 so that, in the end, Russia's economic crisis could lead to a political crisis, which could in turn lead to a Western economic crisis.

Despite the signs of serious faltering in the power of President Boris Yeltsin, his unequivocal rejection of calls to resign is therefore to be welcomed. To paraphrase Winston Churchill's famous comment on democracy, Yeltsin is the worst leader the Russians could have, except for any other. Russia has become a lame duck economy run by lame duck politicians. The power behind the throne may be the much criticized oligarchy of businessmen who head the giant national monopolies, but they seem no more blessed with ideas than the elected politicians.

Russians were quick to point a finger of blame at the eternal international scapegoat, financier George Soros, for speculating against the ruble, but it is chastening to note that Soros lost \$2 billion in the process and is therefore neither as malevolent, nor powerful, nor clever as he is usually painted.

Instead of casting around for conspiracy theories, the Russian government and parliament must get their collective head out of the sand and look around for some serious solutions in their own back yard. Chernomyrdin takes over the crisis with the unfortunate liability of having been fired only five months ago for incompetence. In a game where confidence is the main currency, it may not be an encouraging start, yet Yeltsin is gambling on the fact that he is at least a familiar and uncontroversial face, and that in itself has restored a sliver of confidence.

However, Chernomyrdin's close ties with the monopoly oligarchs raised questions in the past about how committed he was to economic

reforms and this now pits him against a suspicious and angry Duma (parliament). The oligarchy almost certainly had former prime minister Sergei Kiryenko dumped by Yeltsin for daring to try to make them pay taxes, demonstrating to Chernomyrdin a need for a certain caution.

The Duma is dominated by former and current Communists who have a long love affair with the printing machine in fiscal matters — namely, they want the prime minister to print money to support collapsing industries, banks and the whole state welfare system. But Western creditors are extremely nervous — Germany alone is guaranteeing some \$30 billion in loans to Russia — and the last thing they want to hear is the sound of Russian's economic gears going into reverse and back along the old road to Soviet-style and all-pervasive state control of everything.

Yeltsin's total rejection of resignation did inject a welcome note of decisiveness into the shambles in Moscow as the crisis spiraled out of control. A certain measure of political calm has already been restored, and if that carries into the economic field, all may not be lost for Russians and those to whom they owe vast sums abroad. Even the Duma now seems ready to compromise for the good of the country, while wringing every political concession it can from the president and prime minister. Chernomyrdin yesterday promised to keep the ruble convertible, to take drastic action to stop the tottering banking system from collapsing, and to protect the deposits of savers. This latter provision is vital to prevent economic instability translating into public unrest. Russian people appear calm to the point of fatalism in the crisis, though no government would find it advisable to push them much further. Huge numbers of state employees, teachers and workers in industry have not been paid for months. To lose whatever meager savings they have would be a dangerous last straw, signaling that they probably never would get their back pay.

Russians may not yet have realized what such a retreat would mean — Moscow would default on its huge debts and Western interest in the country would implode so rapidly that Russians would find themselves returning to a medieval dark age economically. The government has no choice but to grit its teeth and go forward with draconian reforms, as the IMF has made ringingly clear.

The state treasury may have bare cupboards, Western financial help may be vanishing, the ruble may be in free fall. But Russia has joined the global economy, and must sink or swim with it. There can be no return to the past, and the West must make it clear that it will stand by Russia to prevent that happening, whatever the cost.

Oslo: No choice?

DAVID WEINBERG

Since the Oslo Accords were struck five years ago this month, conventional wisdom has been that Israel must navigate within the confines of the deal.

"Israel has no better diplomatic alternative" is the mainstream establishment mantra, to which Prime Minister Netanyahu's government swore allegiance.

Despite the fact that our Palestinian partner hasn't quite turned out to be the neighbor we'd hoped for, there is, simply put, no choice but to stick with Oslo. Why? Because the repercussions of total breakdown in the peace process which would result from any formal renunciation of the accord would be worse, unimaginably bad. "The pressure cooker would explode," we're told.

In sum, we "have" to go forward with the second redeployment (and the third and perhaps more), otherwise there'll be no peace, no security, no international support for Israel.

But does anyone really believe that we'll have more peace and more security and truly more solid international support after we go forward with the next redeployment?

After we withdraw from 13 percent more of the territories, will the IDF have an easier time providing security for Israelis? Then-IDF chief of staff Amnon Shabak told the Knesset on June 9 that after the redeployment "from a security standpoint, we will live in a much, much more difficult reality than the one currently prevailing...."

Indeed, our ability to foil terrorist attacks diminishes as we withdraw

from more territory, making us increasingly dependent on PA intelligence. But, we have no choice....

After we hand over 13 percent more of the territories to Yasser Arafat, will he cease "fostering" Hamas terrorist infrastructures as a military reserve for the future" (as IDF Intelligence Chief Brig.-Gen. Ya'alon said on July 1) or downsize the PA police force in line with

security" says Jibril Rajoub) and find themselves trapped inside their towns as PA forces cut off access roads?

But remember, we have no choice....

After we "recommit ourselves to the process" by withdrawing from 13 percent more of the territories, will the PA cease its ongoing diplomatic aggression against Israel in international forums? Is the

Oslo terms?

Will Arafat distance himself publicly from the Yihye Ayyash suicide bombers of this world, or will he continue to embrace and glorify their memories?

Are PA leaders going to stop threatening violence every time the peace talks hit a snag? I doubt it. But again, we have no choice....

AFTER we withdraw from 13 percent more of the West Bank heartland, will the Israelis who live there sleep more securely in the knowledge that the process is "building trust" between the sides and that joint security patrols will better protect them? Or can Israeli residents of Judea and Samaria expect to be picked off one by one by PA terrorists and policemen ("Move to Tel Aviv if you want

that the "DNA" on Monica's dress didn't come, after all, from AIPAC's warehouses, and that the Lewinsky affair apparently isn't a plot launched by the "satanic, Zionist state"?

How about a feature debunking the Holocaust revisionists who have been so popular until now in the Palestinian press? Unlikely, you say? But, we have no choice....

After we withdraw from 13 percent more of the territories, will Palestinian encroachment in eastern Jerusalem — an absolute violation of the Oslo Accords — be turned back? Will the Palestinian ministries of police, education, interior and religion desist from their continuing step-by-step takeover of the city?

More likely, as final status talks near, the struggle for control will only increase, along with purposefully directed Palestinian violence meant to show who is the boss in eastern Jerusalem. But, we have no choice....

After we withdraw from 13 percent more of the territories, will Arafat chuck the bigots and radical imams he has been smooching with, like Louis Farrakhan, Sheikh Yassin and the Ayatollah Khamenei? Or will the PA act to clean up its awful human rights record? Improbable? But hey, we have no choice....

After we withdraw from 13 percent more of the territories, will fewer Israeli cars be stolen and spirited away to disassembled yards in PA-controlled territory; or be stolen for the PA police motor-pool? Are you skeptical? But, we have no choice. Right?

Will Israel will have more peace, security and international support after the second redeployment?

Enough is enough

RICHARD BEN-VENISTE

pear). All that is left is the mischief of pretrial deposition answers by the president when he walked into the Tripp/Jones/Starr ambush.

More important than Webber Wright's dismissal, however, was her finding that the Lewinsky matter was not essential to the core issues

NOW THAT we have come to this unhappy juncture, how do we proceed? In any rational system, the punishment should be proportionate to the offense.

Yes, it was offensive for President Clinton to engage in a physical relationship with a White

The collision between an overzealous independent counsel and an imperfect president should not be allowed to escalate further

in Jones' complaint and could not be part of the case if it went forward.

Thus, it can be reasoned, if the president had refused to answer the questions put forward on that topic instead of answering, the judge eventually would have reached the same conclusion.

All the recent hyperbole about obstruction of justice would have been avoided. But the president's reckless indiscretion and lack of candor have enabled Starr, finally, to demonstrate impropriety. In the process, Starr has himself become the first independent counsel to be the subject of a court-authorized investigation into unethical and perhaps illegal misuse of grand jury information.

House intern. And, yes, it was offensive that the president failed to acknowledge the relationship candidly when the issue first arose, thereby causing all sorts of collateral problems while he temporized with denials.

But a prolonged period of torturing Bill Clinton will serve no purpose other than a narrow political one. In the meantime, the national interest will most assuredly be harmed, as the events over the past few weeks in Africa and Afghanistan only preview.

The collision between an implacable and overzealous independent counsel and an imperfect and proud president should not be allowed to escalate further into

extended hearings, filling in the lurid details about what we already know. It is now up to those with the stature and commitment to the national interest to rise above partisan politics and bring closure to this lamentable episode.

Perhaps Kenneth Starr will act to rescue his damaged reputation by assuming the role of statesman/prosecutor and decline to send a report to the House, acknowledging that the Framers had only official acts of misconduct in mind when they drafted the impeachment clause in Article II of the Constitution.

Perhaps pigs will fly. Only slightly less unlikely is the possibility that a group of respected leaders will appear on the scene, putting things right again by proclaiming that Congress should pass a resolution reprimanding the president for his inappropriate relationship with a White House intern, and for lack of candor in his civil deposition and over the several-month period thereafter. And let the legitimate business of government go forward.

The alternative scenario — going through the full circus of leaked Starr report, further leaks, airing of Tripp tapes, sanctimonious declarations, counter-strikes regarding sexual hypocrisy, all brought to us non-stop, in color, 24 hours a day, for all the world to see — is almost too horrible to contemplate.

(The Washington Post)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CLINTON: STILL A WORLD LEADER

Sir, — Your regular columnist Gerald M. Steinberg presents his view (August 21) of the political facts of life here as "based on the American system," referring to the direct vote for prime minister first enacted for the last general elections, as a move toward a more "presidential style."

I submit that it was the most unfortunate move in Israeli policies in 50 years, encouraged as it was by the brash new corner who won, and his opponent the silver-haired veteran who proved conclusively that his opinion of his popularity was not in accord with the voters'.

Steinberg stated that if Clinton does not resign or be impeached

the US would appear paralyzed and unable to lead the world or respond with force until at least January 2001. This is totally negated by the US attack on the terror facilities in Afghanistan and Sudan.

The philanderings of presidents and prime ministers in the Western world are legion and almost as old as history itself. Such behavior has little or no connection to the ability to lead or make political decisions and it is only to the detriment of the current US political imbalance in the proportions of Republicans to Democrats that has so tormented the Republicans to the point that the presidency

beyond their reach at the ballot box is now being judged, not politically but morally.

It should be remembered that prime minister Major helped dismember his governing party by his insistence on the purity of sexual and moral behavior of its members. It seems to me that Blair's criteria are based on ability rather than private habits.

I voice the hope that we will be able to leave the "judgment of Bill Clinton's private life to his family" while we concentrate on his role as a world leader.

ERNEST MARKHAM
Kibbutz Yizre'el

THE GRACE OF GOD

Sir, — I am tired of listening to Diaspora Jews rail about what is wrong with Israel. But, what is worse than this, David Saperstein (August 21) would have us all bow to the American ba'al for the sake of a very questionable "long-term support for Israel."

If, as he says, "...the true foundation of US support [is the belief] that Israel shares America's values..." and that Israel's policies on religious affairs are "...irreconcilable with those values of religious

tolerance, pluralism, liberty, and equality so cherished by Americans..." then we are already on a collision course.

As a Washington lobbyist and representative of the Reform Movement, Saperstein may be far removed enough from Torah Judaism to need reminding that the religious leaders of Israel do not derive their authority from the secular state nor (surprise!) the US nor even (gasp!) the UN.

Throughout millennia of foreign

rule and domination, Torah Jews survived without input from America. Judaism and Israel survive today by the grace of God alone.

Despite Mr. Saperstein's self-serving appeal, the Torah Jews of Israel are not about to cave in to the demands of Hellenistic Jews to subvert their faith — not for love of the Gentiles and certainly not for fear of them.

Jerusalem.

DVORA CAIN

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On August 30, 1933, The Palestine Post reported that for the first time in the history of Jaffa Port the discharge of vessels with the exception of mail steamers had been completely stopped for seven days by the Customs, due to congestion which had been growing from year to year.

50 years ago: On August 30, 1948, The Palestine Post reported

that a tacit Anglo-US agreement had been reached, "to put Israel into a more reasonable frame of mind" and that this was being achieved by direct American intervention in Europe to prevent further aid from reaching Israel. The Post commented that apparently, not only the British Foreign Office, but also the US State Department had still not reconciled itself to the existence of a

free and independent Israel. 25 years ago: On August 30, 1973, The Jerusalem Post reported that most airline companies refused to comment or flatly denied this newspaper's report that at least four European carriers were paying blackmail money or had any connection with terrorist organizations.

Alexander Zvielli



Painted pottery figure of a female polo player, Tang Dynasty (\$15,000-\$25,000 at Christie's New York)

Chinese classics

AT THE AUCTIONS

BY NEIL RICHMAN

Christie's opens its New York fall season not with Western art, but a series of mid-September sales of Chinese painting, calligraphy, furniture and ceramics. The same day, Sotheby's New York opens its Asian Week. A few of these sales actually clash but both auction houses are obviously interested in getting potential

buyers or their agents to congregate at the same time.

At Christie's, an 11th-century hanging scroll of an ancient cypress, ink on silk, attributed to Guo Xi (circa 1001-1090), to be offered September 15, is in the Northern Song romantic tradition. Of humble origin, Guo Xi did well at court and became the personal painter to the Shunzong emperor. He wasn't so humble either. In his influential volume *Lofty Message of Forests and Streams*, a commentary on landscape painting, he asks somewhat rhetorically, "Why

do superior men love landscape; what is the reason for it?" Experts relate this scroll to others of the period in the Museum of Taipei; it has an estimate of \$250,000-\$300,000.

The following day Christie's offers a number of equestrian ceramics from both the Han and Tang dynasties, some unglazed, others cold painted. Horses were believed domesticated in China as early as 7,000 years ago and appear in cave paintings and at later Mongolian Bronze Age sites. Some 3,500 years ago, in the Shang Dynasty, real horses, chariots and charioteers were interred with their dead master but were later replaced, no doubt for reasons of economy rather than human kindness, with models in wood, clay or bronze.

A great eye-catcher at this sale is a Tang Dynasty (seventh century) group of eight mounted hunters made of iron-armatured painted pottery (\$380,000-\$450,000). A single rare Sancai (three-color glaze) figure of a caparisoned horse, Tang Dynasty, just 41 cms high, has an estimate that is not much less (\$280,000-\$360,000). On the other hand, a lively and beautiful Tang painted ceramic of a female polo player starts at just \$15,000. It will go for much more.

The same day, Christie's New York offers some superb items of turn of the 16th/17th century Chinese classical furniture, notably a rare Huanghuali four-poster bed (\$280,000-\$320,000); a rare Huanghuali folding horse-shoe-back chair (\$180,000-\$250,000); a pair of delightful horse-shoe-back chairs (\$50,000-\$60,000); and a pair of Huanghuali yokeback armchairs, Guanmaoyi (\$100,000-\$120,000).

A VERY large and superbly glazed caparisoned Tang horse is offered at Sotheby's New York on September 17. The property of a private American collector, it has an estimate of \$250,000-\$280,000.

Sotheby's sales of Far Eastern art begin on September 14 and feature Chinese paintings and calligraphy. One of the notable lots is a 17th-century ink-on-paper hanging



Shitao (1642-1707), *Bamboo*, hanging scroll ink on paper (\$200,000-\$250,000 at Sotheby's New York)

scroll of bamboo plants, painted by Shitao, who possibly interacted with Japanese *nanga* painters (\$200,000-\$250,000).

The following day Sotheby's offers the Hunter collection of Chinese snuff bottles; an agate one is expected to bring between \$15,000-\$20,000.

A group of sensual gilt-bronze Buddhist figures from 13th and 14th century Nepal is offered at Sotheby's sale of Asian and Indian Art on September 16/17, at which contemporary Indian paintings will also be sold. A Nepalese standing Buddha Sakyamuni, circa 1200, just 50 cms high, has a healthy estimate of \$300,000-\$500,000.

Among the Japanese works that Sotheby's New York offers on September 18 is a comparatively recent pair of six-panel screens superbly rendered in the 17th-century manner by Yokoyama Takanobu (1668-1735). Depicted in ink and mineral colors on paper against a background of gold leaf are pines and cranes, the Japanese symbols of fidelity, fecundity and longevity. The composition is superb (\$400,000-\$600,000).

Also offered at part two of this sale are further items of netsuke and tsuba sword guards from the collection of the late Charles Greenfield.

SOtheby's AND Christie's sales of 19th and 20th century modernists in both New York and

London will not take place until October-November. More about them in a later column. However Christie's London is holding a sale of "Exploration Art" on September 17 that includes a lost oil from Captain Cook's third voyage, painted on Krakatoa in 1785 by John Webber R.A. (£150,000-£250,000). There's also a group of oils devoted to Arctic and Antarctic exploration by Frank Wilbert Stokes (1858-1955) that is being let go by the Smithsonian so that they can acquire presumably more important items.

Another form of curiosity sale is one of copies after Old Masters, to be offered at Christie's Amsterdam on September 29. Some of them are more than competent. An equestrian portrait of young Prince Balhasar Carlos by Velazquez has been very well rendered by Theo van Rysselberghe (1862-1926) and has an estimate of NLG 10,000 (guilders) 10,000 to NLG 15,000. But where to hang such a subject? You need a castle, or a touch of megalomania.

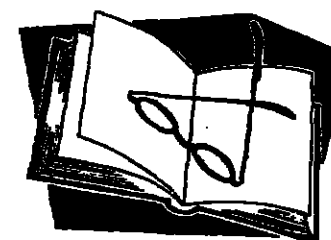
SOtheby's NEW YORK has just held its first Internet auction of books and manuscripts, selling 72 of 121 lots for \$63,255. A first-edition George Moore went for \$13,800, a bit beneath its estimate. But some *Time* magazine covers signed by world leaders, thought to bring \$500 at best, went to a dealer for \$4,140.



Helen Keller (left), with secretary Polly Thompson in 1952.

The real Helen Keller

Book Review



By Diana K. Sugg

Helen Keller: A Life, by Dorothy Herrmann (Knopf, \$30, 394 pp.)

In the dark Alabama night, the young woman waited on the porch, holding her packed bag. Twice before, her attempts to marry her boyfriend, Peter Fagan, had been thwarted by teachers and family. This was the couple's third try. But Helen Keller would wait all night for a man who never came.

Later, Keller would describe her days with Fagan, the only boyfriend she ever had, as "a little island of joy surrounded by dark waters." Her complete dependence on people may have scared Fagan away. But another theme in her complex life was also a factor.

As a new biography reveals, Keller's desires for ordinary happiness - for her own door key, for a husband and children - were cut off by prejudice and people who wanted to mold her into a pure, saintly image.

In *Helen Keller: A Life*, Dorothy Herrmann taps an impressive array of letters, journals, books and even Keller's FBI file, to find the human being behind the "institution" that Keller became. She was an outspoken political activist, but she found few wanted to listen unless she was discussing being blind and deaf.

It is a rare and profound disability. From the time Keller was a child working with teacher Annie Sullivan, though, public reports often exaggerated and sensationalized her ability to overcome her handicaps.

She quickly became a symbol of the disabled, and this book makes a convincing case that her handlers wanted her to appear virtuous and happy, and therefore acceptable to the public. Luminaries of her time, including Alexander Graham

Bell, came to see Keller as proof of the existence of God. But as this compelling biography shows, Keller was a person, with her own hopes and needs, just like the unaffected. She wanted to be with ordinary people, but her teachers kept her in circles of the affluent and the elite. Sullivan and others pushed her, and she achieved far more than anyone expected: earning a degree from Radcliffe, writing several books, and keeping a grueling schedule lecturing around the world.

The price of those accomplishments, of being the perfect symbol, was Keller's private life, and the lives of two long-time teacher/interpreters, Sullivan and Polly Thomson. Both stayed with her around the clock, helping with basic tasks and spelling into Keller's hand for hours.

Along the way, the book explores tantalizing questions. Was Annie Sullivan the brilliance behind Keller's success?

Keller would describe her days with Fagan, the only boyfriend she ever had, as "a little island of joy surrounded by dark waters."

Did Sullivan and Keller essentially become two parts of one person? Was Keller a genuinely good person, or did she behave sweetly because that was how she got what she wanted? And to what extent did Sullivan and Thomson control

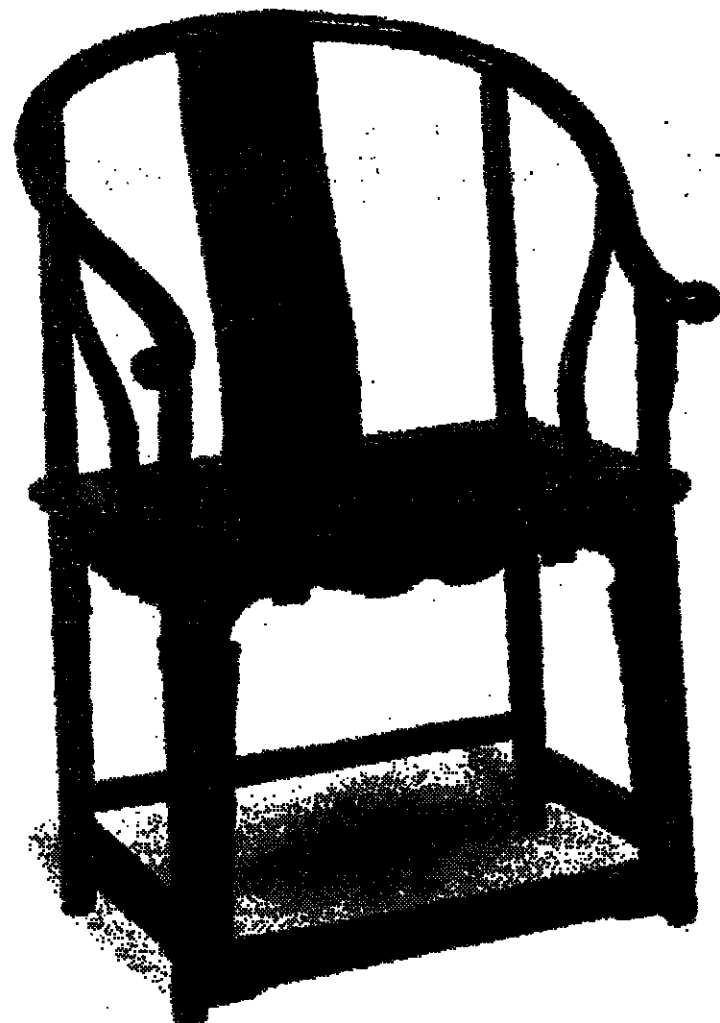
Keller's contact with others, cutting her off from people she loved, but who threatened them?

Helen Keller doesn't, and perhaps can't, answer some key questions, especially about how Keller felt about some of those close to her. The biography also leaves this reader frustrated, wanting a better description of how it felt to be Keller, to experience the world through just three senses: touch, taste and smell.

But this important, often sad story should be read by advocates and families of the disabled, as well as those who would dictate the terms of their lives. It is a painful reminder of the condescending attitude that society still has toward people with handicaps.

In her later years, Keller finally found some freedom, enjoying hot dogs and martinis whenever she wanted. But when she died in 1968, at the age of 87, her wishes weren't followed. Somebody else always thought they knew better.

(The Baltimore Sun)



One of a pair of Huanghuali horseshoe-back armchairs, Quanyi, 17th century (\$50,000-\$60,000 at Christie's New York)

You can fight City Hall, even in Israel

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

Certainly, by now, all literate people should be aware of the dangers of asbestos - particularly the inhalation of asbestos fibers causing, among other things, a particularly nasty type of lung cancer.

That being so, it is almost impossible to find any rational explanation of why, without any environmental impact survey (as required by law) or attempt to carry out a cleanup (as common sense would dictate), a decision was made to build a children's park at the site of an old asbestos factory that was in operation for years.

Somewhat the Nahariya municipality, the area planning committee and the Ministry of the Environment all went along with developers' plans to create

Kiddieland in just such an ambience.

Last week the Haifa District Court halted the project on the basis of a petition brought by the Nahariya Society for the Quality of Life and Environment, together with the Israel Union for Environmental Defense (IUED).

The petitioners told the court that, under the prevailing circumstances, the development would comprise a health hazard to the populace, especially to children and accompanying adults.

The judge agreed, and, in addition to halting the project, severely censured the Nahariya Municipality, the planning committee and the Environment Ministry for flagrant disregard of the public's rights, health and welfare. Rarely have any representatives of officialdom received such a tongue-lashing.

But what is of the greatest interest here is that all those who supported the program simply went ahead - never mind law or logic - for the simple reason that, like most official bodies, they have always done as they pleased, and saw no reason to consider the public this time.

THIS particular incident, however, shows that Israelis are waking up to the fact that they do, in fact, have rights, and that they can exert some

control over official bodies.

It isn't always easy, and it isn't always as successful as it was in this case, but more and more non-governmental groups made up of concerned citizens are getting involved in issues that affect them and insisting that their voices be heard.

So far, it is happening most often over issues of environmental quality.

There is no doubt that the IUED has played an active role in changing the once-apathetic attitude of a public which grumbled, but always ended by lifting its hands and saying, "What can one do?"

Yet it is a fact that the IUED - a nonprofit organization completely funded by private donations, including membership fees - has already challenged, under existing laws, municipalities and local and district councils all over Israel on pollution issues and public-health hazards.

Their success has been phenomenal, and, as a result, more groups are turning to the courts to prevent depredations that threaten them, their families and their neighbors.

There will no doubt be more such cases in the near future, and who knows? Maybe this newly awakened sense of empowerment will spill over into other areas of our embattled lives.



The asbestos-saturated site in Nahariya where a park would have been built, if concerned citizens hadn't challenged the plan in court.

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End chaos with do-it-yourself database

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Everything naturally reverts to chaos: just look at your clothes closets near the end of the season, or at your workplace after returning from a three-week vacation. It takes great effort to banish the chaos and replace it with order.

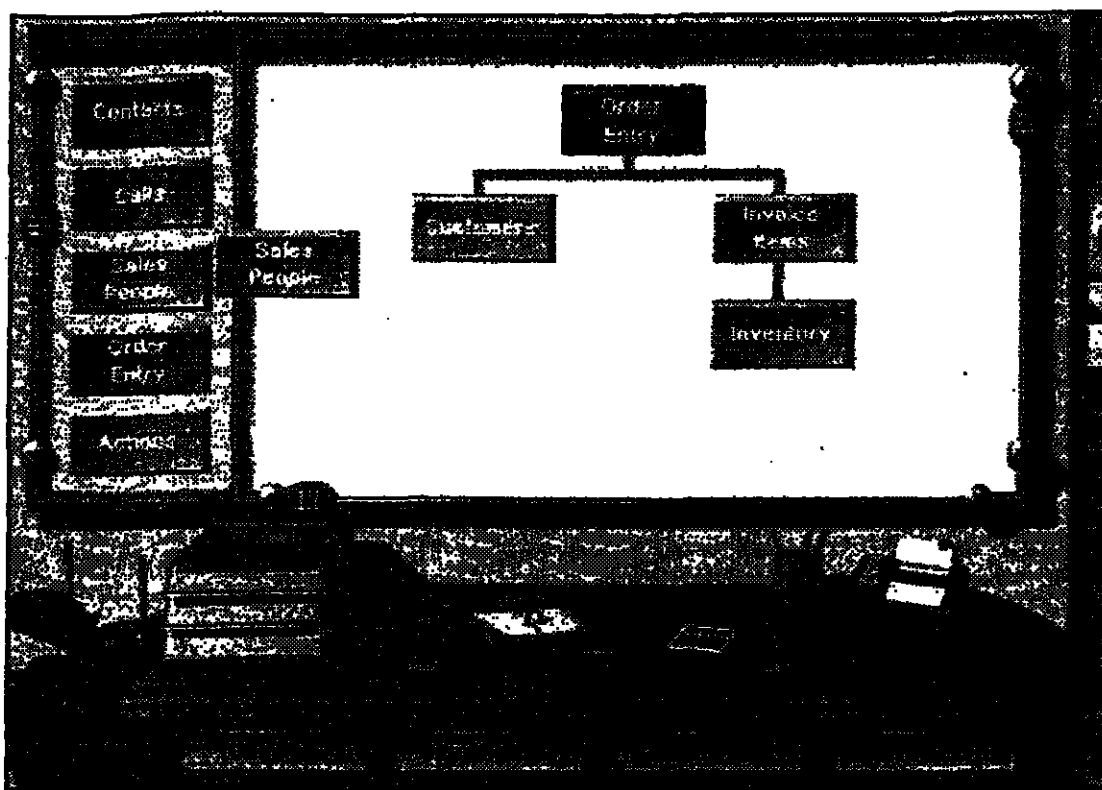
If you run a small business or have numerous dealings with investments or payments, a computerized database is the best way to keep your records straight.

Every time you fill out a check, a tax return or another form with blank spaces on it, you've probably produced information that will end up in a computer database, and bills, magazine mailing labels and form letters undoubtedly were produced by others using a database program.

But for people who have never studied computers formally, just the sound of the word "database" is intimidating, making them prefer to call in expensive experts to construct such a bank of information.

Now, easyBASE, a four-year-old start-up company in the Lod industrial zone near Ben-Gurion Airport, has produced a highly praised piece of software that makes it possible for laymen to design a flexible but customized database on their computer and access records instantly - faster than if they were paper files on the top of their desk.

In fact, its graphic interface is a virtual office, with a desk, in trays, drawers, "whiteboard," a



IBASE's graphic interface is a virtual office, with a desk, in trays, drawers, "whiteboard," Rolodex file and compartments.

Rolodex file and compartments. Called IBASE, the program was developed over the past two years by easyBASE, which currently has 15 staffers in Lod and Irvine, California.

The company is privately held by its founder, Noam Aharon, and US investors; before establishing it Aharon successfully created and managed the US

market for Magic Software, a rapid development tool for client/server business solutions.

The program is now available in Hebrew and English versions for \$200 (for a single user). A free trial program can be downloaded from www.easibase.com, as can the full-fledged product offered for sale. IBASE - for which a patent is pending in the

US and Israel - is also currently being translated into German as well, and it will appear in other languages for which there is demand. The next version will be for actual use on the Internet.

The program is suitable not only for small companies and home businesses, but also for corporate departments that interconnect using Internet, intranet

and workgroups, say Anat Gofen, easyBASE's business development manager, and Victor Lewitus of the sales department.

It's most suited for departments with 25 to 30 users, but it can accommodate even more.

All databases, regardless of their purpose, are composed of highly structured records with an identical format, such as a tax return or a bank check. But each record stored in the database must have a unique characteristic: a name, date or address, for example.

The record is comprised of fields, which are blank spaces for certain types of data, such as names, dates and numbers. These "data types" can be manipulated by the computer, which can figure out when you paid your TV license, how much you spent on ink for your computer printer during the last five years, or how many of your customers live on Dizengoff Street.

A computerized database should also be able to take stored information and apply it for other purposes, such as accessing your e-mail addresses and sending off messages.

ALTHOUGH the company offers training tutorials for company staffers, Gofen notes that most users find the program so user friendly, and the on-disk tutorial so useful, that they don't need to rely on the printed manuals that come in the program's yellow box.

Lewitus adds that IBASE's "growing library of ready-made

business solutions sets new standards in ease-of-use and customization flexibility, requiring no development or programming efforts."

Until now, says Gofen, only large businesses have been able to afford sophisticated databases for company records and interactivity with the Internet. Their average development cost is some \$300,000, so small businesses without in-house programmers or large development budgets had to use off-the-shelf software products to which they had to suit themselves, rather than programs that suited themselves to the business.

Users create databases by dragging-and-dropping icons and words on a graphical whiteboard and clicking them to open customized forms and reports. The components automatically link and interact according to the model hierarchy, and adapt their behavior when reused in different model hierarchies.

For example: When placing the "Orders" icon under "Customers," the model lists "Customers" and "Orders" details for each customer. It can also list "Customers" handled by each "Salesperson."

The program also lets small businesses fully utilize the potential of the Internet to interact online with their customers, suppliers, employees, dealers and distributors, saving time and money and lowering overhead while increasing profitability.

The program is much easier for the layman to use than database

programs integrated with Microsoft products because it doesn't require them to know the technical workings of relational databases. Users don't have to know how to program, use primary keys, integrate types or normalize data.

A database of suppliers, clients, staffers and customers with their phone numbers, orders, e-mail addresses and endless other pieces of information can be created in minutes, instead of hours using conventional software.

If you've already stored data in a conventional database program, a click on the mouse will empty them out and distribute them in the right place in IBASE, Gofen adds.

Small businesses will find it easy to produce their own forms and print them out, either starting from scratch or using any of 22 prepared templates that can be customized to their requirements. With various colors, frames, artwork and font styles, these can be quite eye-catching.

The drawers and trays on the main screen of the program constitute a powerful filing system, allowing users to link documents produced in other computer applications to individual records within a database.

Users can also search, view and print out documents without opening their individual applications.

A lot of time is saved by writing an e-mail message to many people on a list and having them sent out, personalized, to each one with just a click.

Month-old guacamole, fresh and tasty

By LISA CORNWELL

Imagine opening up your refrigerator, taking out month-old yogurt or guacamole - or even ground beef - and finding it not only safe to eat, but just as tasty as the day it was packaged.

That's exactly what some researchers and food manufacturers say is possible as a result of a food processing technology that uses hydrostatic pressure to preserve perishable foods.

"The beauty of this process is that it kills disease-causing microbes such as *E. coli* and *salmonella*, but doesn't require the preservatives or heat used in more traditional preservation methods, like freezing and canning," said Sam Huttenbauer Jr., chief executive officer of High Pressure Research Inc.

"As a result, it doesn't hurt the flavor or take away nutrients, and the shelf life of products is extended."

After about nine years of research and two years of testing products for the US military, Huttenbauer's Cincinnati-based company is set to begin producing and marketing high-pressure foods commercially in grocery stores.

Daniel Farkas, head of the food science and technology department at Oregon State and a consultant to Huttenbauer's company, said the high-pressure process is relatively simple.

"You place fresh, packaged food in a water-filled chamber and subject it to pressure between 3,500 kilos to 7,000 kilos per square centimeter," Farkas said.

"The high pressure kills the microbes that spoil food but does not alter the food's flavor, appearance, consistency or nutritional value."

HIGH-PRESSURE processing was actually developed in the 1890s in a West Virginia lab, but wasn't commercially feasible until other technological advances made it possible to achieve the amount of pressure needed to preserve food, according to Farkas, a leading researcher in the field.

"Now the hurdle is establishing affordable equipment that can provide the speed and capacity needed for mass production," Farkas said.

Flow International Corp., based in Kent, Washington, hopes to provide that type of equipment.

The manufacturer of high-pressure pumps and water-jet cutting equipment recently signed an agreement with Minute Maid, a division of Coca-Cola, to provide equipment and technical support as the company investigates the possibility of high-pressure processing for juices.

Minute Maid spokesman Dan Shafer said the Houston-based company is interested in the potential of high-pressure processing.

"It has already been successful elsewhere, and it's time to see whether it could be used on juices commercially," he said.

One of the successes is a small company that has been marketing a high-pressure guacamole for about 18 months. Its Classic Guacamole has a shelf life of about 30 days, compared with the

traditional seven days allowed by other methods.

Avomex Inc., based in Keller, Texas, produces the guacamole at a plant in Mexico and then distributes it in Texas and a few other states.

The high-pressure process also interests the US Army, which has helped fund research in the pursuit of more palatable field rations.

Oregon State has produced several samples for the military, including a Spanish rice dish that has retained its flavor and texture for two years.

"We need foods that can be stored up to three years at high temperatures," said Patrick Dunne, an Army chemist in Natick, Massachusetts. "We are especially interested in a yogurt drink and other dairy products that could be stored unrefrigerated."

Farkas, whose lab has done research both for military and commercial applications, says that while year-old yogurt would be safe if processed with high pressure, some flavor would be lost.

"It would work for the military, but it's not recommended for commercial marketing," he said.

Initially, high-pressure processed foods will cost 50 to 70 US cents more per kilo than canned or frozen foods, but the cost should go down as production costs decrease, Huttenbauer said.

The technique has been recognized as "valid" by the Food and Drug Administration, and the products that result are subject to the same safety laws as other foods. (Associated Press)

NII kiosks make info too accessible



By Judy Segel-Itzkovich

Twenty computerized information kiosks have been installed at branches of the National Insurance Institute (NII) to eliminate the need for many people to wait in queues.

The Eldor Computers company designed and produced the blue-and-white stations, which operate with a touch screen rather than a mouse. All you need to do is type your name and identity card number on the keyboard to get a print-out of information about your dealings with the NII.

The stations received some rather unwanted publicity recently when journalists who knew the identity number of the prime minister and other cabinet members obtained information about their child allowance payments from the machine at the Jubilee Exhibition's NII pavilion.

Yisrael Reiss, Eldor's official in charge of banking hardware, said it was the NII that set the specifications for the information kiosks; they didn't ask for a more expensive add-on that would require users to run a magnetic card or "smart card" through the machine for added security.

But Reiss said his company would be ready to retrofit the machines with such a device quickly if the NII commissioned it.

Fifty more of the machines will soon be installed, with another 70 to follow, giving all 140 NII



An NII station like this one told journalists about the prime minister's child allowance payments.

branches an information kiosk.

Eldor, which specializes in automated information, previously developed and installed information stations for the Petah Tikva Municipality, Bank Hapoalim,

Yad Vashem and the Tourism Ministry.

PLASTIC PHONE BOOK
If you don't want to call Bezeq information (144) and be charged

several phone units for getting a number, get Golden Pages latest version of Bezeq's CD-ROM.

The disk, the sixth to be produced, includes two million Bezeq subscribers, 190,000 companies and enterprises, and 35,000 subscribers added to the list during the past four months. The information is more updated than that in phone directories, which are printed annually.

The disk, suited for either Windows 3.11 or Windows 95, allows instant searches by name, type of business or address. There is also an automatic dialer - perfect for telemarketers - that calls any number you choose if the computer is attached to a phone line and modem.

Sold for NIS 135, it can be ordered by calling 1-800-223-558; a yearly subscription of four disks is cheaper than buying a new one each quarter.

I'LL BE SEEING YOU

The Sony Corporation halted shipments of a new model of video camera after it was discovered that the camera could "see" through light-colored clothing, down to the underwear and even right through to one's skin.

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, some versions of the expensive Handycam were developed with infrared technology designed to let users film in the dark.

But, as Sony accidentally discovered, if the infrared feature is used in a lit area, the camera can see through clothing.

"Underwear can show up, and people wearing swimsuits look almost naked," the article said.

Sony has recently modified the camera so the infrared feature only works at night, but 870,000 of the "mischievous" cameras have already been sold.

The best place to file valuable papers is... in the fridge

By DAVID WILLIAMSON

Do you have any valuable documents you want to preserve for posterity, such as old letters or immigration papers, the family tree, the Declaration of Independence or the Magna Carta?

A University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill scientist says his team's research suggests the best way is to keep them not only dry, but also cool.

A book, for example, that might last a century at room temperature could stay in good shape for 600 years or even more if kept away from moisture and simply cooled at 10 degrees Celsius. Cooling papers further would extend their shelf life even more.

"We have been studying enzyme reactions and the natural process that breaks down covalent bonds holding together compounds corresponding to the sugar building blocks of starch and cellulose," said Dr. Richard Wolfenden, a professor of biochemistry and biophysics at the UNC-CH School of Medicine.

"Unexpectedly, we found that the decomposition, or hydrolysis, of these bonds is extremely sensitive to changing temperature, and

that refrigeration should provide a singularly effective means of preserving valuable documents."

A report on the research appears in the July 15 issue of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

The researchers found bonds holding cellulose - the chief component of plant cell walls - and starch together to be remarkably stable, Wolfenden says. Under normal conditions, it would take eight million years for half the bonds in cellulose to be broken and five million years for half the bonds in starch to decompose.

By contrast, the half-lives of the covalent bonds that join DNA - the molecular blueprints for living things - are 170,000 years and for proteins, 400 years.

"In the presence of enzymes, however, those same reactions speed up and are completed in less time than it takes a camera shutter to open and close," the UNC-CH biochemist explains. "The extreme slowness of these reactions without enzymes provides a first glimpse of the extraordinary power of enzymes as catalysts."

To determine speeds at which bonds are broken, the scientists took advantage of the fact that heat causes reactions to speed up.

In the laboratory, they cooked simple compounds, with bonds representing those that join long starch and cellulose molecules, in water at extremely high temperatures for various time periods.

They then examined the contents to see how far the reaction had progressed.

The results yielded reaction rates that could be extrapolated to room temperature, at which the rates are far too slow to measure directly, the scientist said, "even for an unusually patient graduate student."

They found that by lowering the temperature 10 degrees Celsius, the reaction rate went down six-fold, Wolfenden says.

"By dropping it another 10 degrees, say from 25 degrees Celsius to five degrees, you would have almost a 40-fold decline, so that a document that would last 100 years at room temperature would last 4,000 years in a refrigerator."

"The accepted lore has been that most reactions double in rate with a 10-degree rise in temperature. We are now learning that this is very far from true, and that some reactions increase as much as 15-fold in rate over the same interval."

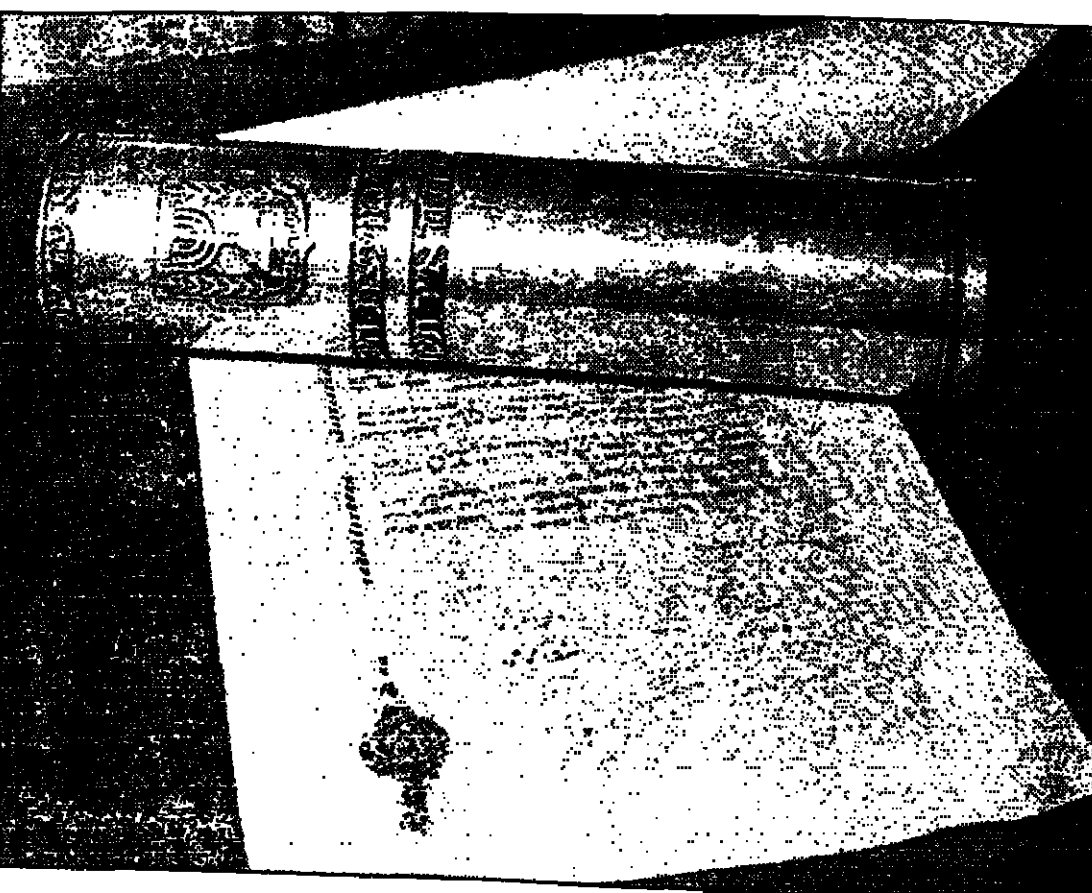
Among the advantages of refrigerating documents to preserve them are that it would be less expensive and less time-consuming and would not involve any of the toxic chemicals now used, Wolfenden said.

"As a practical matter, what this work means is that if you have a valuable book, the best idea is to keep it in the coolest part of your house," he added.

"Everybody knows you don't want things to be damp, but what's new is that the temperature dependence of these reactions is much higher than had been suspected."

"The theoretical importance of our work is that it indicates for the first time what a magnificent job enzymes do in speeding up these reactions. These results also indicate the magnitude of the potential sensitivity of enzyme antagonists called transition state analogues (TSAs), which include ACE inhibitors used to treat heart patients and protease inhibitors used to control AIDS."

"These new results suggest that, as effective as these inhibitors are, the prospects for their improvement are brighter than we suspected." (University of North Carolina News Service)



Experts estimate that a document that would last only 100 years at room temperature would last 4,000 years in a refrigerator.

(J.Y. Elmerick)



A simple blood test will reveal perilous levels of iron – but the condition can go largely unnoticed, even by doctors.

Iron overload spells danger

By TOMOKO HOSAKA

If you feel tired and suffer from other vague symptoms, your doctor will usually send you for a blood test to check for iron-deficiency anemia. Who would think that some of the same symptoms could mean you have too much iron?

The genetic condition, called hemochromatosis, began about three years ago for Barbara Badger. The fatigue hit her the hardest.

The 55-year-old Maryland resident would spend several hours a day collapsed on the couch, exhausted and unable to find any energy. Her body sometimes broke out into uncontrollable shaking.

She went to the doctor, who found nothing wrong. It was just depression, he said, and prescribed more Prozac.

Badger and her husband, however, believed something else was going on. She remembered a physical exam from more than a decade earlier, when her iron levels were declared to be unusually high.

Nobody was concerned back then, but the memory nagged Badger as she continued to feel fatigued.

She asked her doctor to retest her blood for iron. Two days later, her doctor called with the news: Her iron was dangerously high – more than three times the normal level.

Badger was immediately referred to a hematologist, who identified the serious condition in which the body absorbs too much iron, leading to potentially fatal complications.

Although researchers say it is the most common genetic disease in the US and is easily treatable, hemochromatosis goes largely unnoticed by most people, including physicians.

"Most doctors are uninformed or ill-informed," said Victor Herbert, a physician at New York's Mt. Sinai Hematology and Nutrition Research Laboratory.

That's mainly because hemochromatosis is often masked by its symptoms.

ARTHROSIS, chronic-fatigue syndrome and diabetes are common manifestations of hemochromatosis. In advanced stages of the disease, excess iron begins to damage the heart, liver, pancreas and reproductive system. Cancer, which thrives on iron, can also invade the liver and pancreas.

Left untreated, excess iron ultimately leads to death, researchers say.

"A lot of people with these horrible medical problems get treated for these conditions and the underlying problem never gets addressed," said American Hemochromatosis Society president Sandra Thomas.

People with hemochromatosis don't necessarily consume more iron than others, but their organs

absorb more of it than those of people without the disease.

Once the disease is diagnosed, patients are given a simple and seemingly primitive form of treatment – bloodletting. Technically called phlebotomy, getting rid of blood is the best way of controlling iron levels.

When Badger was first diagnosed, she had a pint of blood removed every week. She said she quickly began to feel better. As her iron level went down, so did the frequency of her treatments. Now she goes once a month.

"I feel better immediately the day after a phlebotomy treatment," she said. "It's almost like it's lightened me up."

California researchers discovered the disease's genetic basis two years ago, and estimates show that one in eight white Americans carry the gene responsible for it.

One in 200 have inherited two genes, one from each parent, according to those research estimates. Those with two genes have the highest risk of developing hemochromatosis, but it doesn't necessarily mean they'll get the disease. Even people without the genetic mutation can suffer from iron overload.

THE gene is most commonly found in people of British and Celtic descent – the Irish, Scottish and English.

[It's] apparently much less common in Jews, and Israeli doctors have little experience with it, except in isolated cases in which Celts and British non-Jews converted or intermarried with Jews. Dr. Avraham Kunein, a genetics expert at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, says he wanted to do a survey, but there was no funding.]

While a genetic test for hemochromatosis is now available, a national group of iron experts that convened at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta last year voted to recommend against using it for widespread population-based screening.

Writing in last month's *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the experts explained that their decision was based on the uncertainty of the implications of genetic testing and the possible stigma and discrimination that could result from a positive test, especially for employment and insurance purposes. (The Washington Post)

More information on the condition is available from the American Hemochromatosis Society's Web site: <http://www.americanhs.org>; the Iron Overload Diseases Association's Web site: <http://www.ironoverload.org>; and the Hemochromatosis Foundation's Web site: <http://branch.com/hemo/hemo.html>.

Celiac – the silent, unknown disease

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

To most people, eating a sandwich or a piece of cake poses only a weight problem. But for those with celiac disease, it can lead to malabsorption of nutritious substances in food plus a whole variety of complications.

Gluten intolerance – an intolerance to gluten proteins in wheat, rye, barley and oats – is believed to appear in one out of 800 Israelis, but some experts say it's a highly underreported condition, and that as many as one in 100 are symptomless carriers with "silent celiac."

Celiac tends to run in families, and there's a definite genetic component, but it doesn't often appear in all children in the family, and it even skips generations. There are environmental triggers, but, except for pregnancy and a few other events, scientists aren't sure exactly what they are.

Symptoms usually first appear in babies and young children, but they can suddenly erupt in adults of any age, even the middle-aged and elderly.

Although celiac is curable when foods containing gluten are completely eliminated from the diet, this isn't always very easy with many manufacturers disregarding a 1996 public health regulation that requires them to label foods containing the protein clearly.

Gluten can appear quite innocently as starch thickeners in a whole gamut of food products without the consumer knowing it. In addition, many doctors aren't aware of the disease, and it can take years to diagnose, even though a simple blood test, available during the past few years, can identify celiac with near-certainty.

Although gluten-free flour is subsidized by the government, ready-made baked goods are very expensive and must be purchased at the full price.

TO increase public and medical awareness of celiac (called *kare-ser* in Hebrew), and fight on behalf of patients' rights, the Israel Celiac Society (*Irgun Regishei Gluten Be'Yisrael*) was founded recently by volunteers in Ramat Gan.

Located at 9 Hagefen Street (tel. 03-7518644), the organization held its first national conference in Yehud last week, with guest speakers coming from both Carmel Hospital in Haifa and Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem.

Prof. Aaron Lerner, chief of

pediatrics at Carmel and director of its pediatric gastroenterology service, notes that celiac is an autoimmune disease, not an allergy. Unfortunately, no epidemiological studies have been conducted on the disease in Israel, including the possibility that it's more common in certain ethnic groups.

Although US blacks are known to get it less frequently, it is not believed to be any more or less common in Jews than in general populations.

For an unknown reason, in celiac sufferers, gluten causes the body to attack the villi and microvilli in the small intestine, preventing the gut from taking the vital nutrients into the bloodstream. The absorbent surface is thus flattened and drastically reduced.

In adults, symptoms include diarrhea and weight loss, as well as abdominal swelling and pain due to malabsorption. Undigested food remaining in the intestine absorbs water, causing feces to be looser and carrying with them abnormal quantities of fats, proteins, sugars, iron and other minerals.

Oddly, a minority of patients will even suffer from constipation and obesity – the opposite of the most frequent symptoms.

The disease can also cause anemia and osteoporosis, as well as cessation of menstruation.

Iron deficiency can cause fragile nails, while a lack of folic acid can lead to epilepsy. The lack of calcium may produce bone pain and fractures, and inadequate vitamin A can lead to vision disturbances and dry mucous membranes. Too little zinc causes loss of hair and fragile nails.

But since most of these symptoms very rarely appear together in a patient at any one time, doctors don't often think of celiac and consequently don't send patients for the confirming blood test.

The blood test for certain antibodies is very sensitive but not 100% accurate, so patients with a positive result have to undergo a biopsy, with an endoscope pushed down the throat to remove a small amount of tissue from the intestine.

Lerner notes that people who completely eliminate gluten from their diet need no drugs or other treatment, but those who don't are at higher risk for a number of serious conditions, including lymphoma, ulcerative jejunitis, diabetes, lupus and other immune diseases.



Everyone knows regular bread contains gluten, but so do a whole gamut of other food products whose labels often omit mention of it.

PEDIATRIC celiac disease first appears mostly during the first two years of life. Lerner notes, generally some time after the baby or toddler has started eating cereal, cookies or pasta with gluten.

It can also appear later, especially if the addition of gluten flour to the diet is delayed. Symptoms in young children include chronic diarrhea, failure to grow or loss of weight, a distended abdomen, behavioral changes such as irritability or apathy, vomiting, deformed tooth enamel and loss of appetite. The disease is less marked in older children.

Once celiac disease presents itself, the sensitivity to gluten remains with the patient throughout his or her life, and so the diet must be maintained forever.

Among the foods that celiac patients may eat are rice, corn, tapioca, soy, chickpeas, millet, pure buckwheat, potatoes and chestnuts, as well as any foods consisting of protein if they're

not mixed with fats, cereals and legumes adulterated with forbidden gluten.

Lerner frowns on the fact that the army refuses to draft young people who are gluten-sensitive (though they may volunteer), since celiac patients could serve close to home and eat what doesn't harm them.

"If they follow the diet, they're completely healthy, and they want to contribute," Lerner declares.

PIA Tannhauser, a clinical dietitian at Haifa's Rambam Hospital, came to her current profession because of her own celiac disease. At 54 she was finally diagnosed in 1981. "I wanted to learn more about nutrition as a result," says Tannhauser, a Swiss-born former chemist.

In her case, the disease wasn't sudden.

"I had various symptoms, including anemia, which didn't improve despite iron supple-

ments. I had had rickets as a child, which was highly unusual in Switzerland; my body just wasn't absorbing enough vitamin D. And I think my mother had undiagnosed celiac as well."

For years after being diagnosed, Tannhauser found it very difficult to follow a strict diet.

"Many products aren't labeled as having gluten, especially when they're included in small amounts used for keeping certain ingredients free-flowing. It's also hard at restaurants, as starches are used as thickening agents."

"But today I do very well, as I'm not shy about asking, and my friends know exactly what I can eat."

Although Tannhauser makes her bread and cakes at home ("a bit drier and less tasty than with gluten flour"), she's considering the possibility of buying an automatic bread-baking machine, which would make things easier. She knows of a number of celiac patients who have such a device because of the high cost of prepared gluten-free goods – 10 small pitot, for example, cost NIS 15.

She thinks baked goods and bread machines should be subsidized by the government.

"When I mistakenly ate food with gluten, I would really feel it. It wasn't just intestinal symptoms, but even pains in my knees and lack of concentration that could go on for months. Fortunately, intestinal villi grow back in several months," she says.

She also thinks primary physicians should be made more aware of the condition.

"At Rambam, I saw a woman who looked positively anorexic after giving birth. I pointed out the possibility of celiac disease, and that's what it was," Tannhauser says.

In Sweden, the policy is to expose all young children to milk formulas with gluten flour, so that those sensitive to it can be identified early. In nearby Denmark, however, this is intentionally not done, so as not to trigger the condition in very young children. This is also the policy in Israel.

"I really don't know which policy is preferable," Tannhauser notes.

But she says manufacturers should be required to put a clearly recognizable symbol on all products that contain any amount of gluten at all.

"This wouldn't cost money, but it could save a lot of celiac patients a lot of problems and ill health."

Big-hearted folks give hair to kids who haven't any

By KAREN TESTA

Lisa Taylor wrung her hands in her lap and choked back tears. Her heart raced and her breathing was labored as she gazed straight ahead, not wanting to see what was going on behind her.

This was no ordinary haircut. Taylor, 38, had spent a decade growing her strawberry-blond hair down past her waist – to 71 centimeters in length. But when she learned about Locks of Love, an organization that turns donations of real hair into wigs for sick children, she decided she could spare a few strands.

"It's for kids that don't have hair," she said, her voice trembling as a stylist chopped off a 30-centimeter-long ponytail from her mane. "And mine will grow back."

That's not the case for the children who receive the special wigs. Most have *alopecia areata*, a disease of the autoimmune system that causes hair loss. It can range from patchy spots on their heads to total body hair loss. Other children have suffered severe burns or lost their hair during treatment for cancer.

Peggy Knight understands the trauma baldness can cause for kids. At age 14, *alopecia areata* robbed her of the hair on her head, arms and her eyebrows. She founded Locks of Love a



The satisfaction of helping a sick child is enhanced by the knowledge that a donated pony tail will grow back.

year ago after a childhood friend, now an adult, grew her hair and gave it to Knight.

"She said, 'It was so difficult to watch you endure all the teasing as a child,'" Knight said.

Since it began, the Fort Lauderdale-based nonprofit group has provided about 35 of

the \$3,000 wigs to children whose parents can't afford them. Knight also has a for-profit company which sells wigs.

So far, more than 2,500 bundles of hair have been donated, and they've come from far and wide. Kasey Anderson, an eight-year-old Girl Scout from Fairhope,

Alabama, cut off her 60-centimeter locks in February. Her reasoning: "This is what Jesus would do if he could do it. Why not me do it?"

Donors must provide at least 25 centimeters of hair bundled in a pony tail or braid. It must be perfectly dry and not overly damaged by treatment.

It can be mailed in a plastic bag in a padded envelope.

It takes a dozen pony tails to make one wig. A mold is taken of each child's head, and then a silicon cap – something like a swimming cap – is made and dyed the proper complexion of their scalp.

A wig maker in New Zealand carefully applies each donated strand of hair individually to the cap – a process that takes four months for each wig.

JENNIFER Milian thinks it will be worth the wait. The 16-year-old from Bartlett, Tennessee, has *alopecia universalis* – a total loss of hair on her body.

It began with clumps falling out of her head at age eight, which grew back with some treatments. By the eighth grade, she had lost it all. She began wearing a wig. But it was made of synthetic hair and looked anything but natural. Her classmates were curious, sometimes cruel.

"That's the one I got teased with," she said. "It was really

noticeable, it didn't move."

The Locks of Love wigs have the advantage of being made with real hair, which can be cut and styled. Jennifer was overwhelmed when she learned that strangers would donate hair to help her. "I really appreciate the fact that they cut their hair," she said. "I wish I could say more than thanks to them."

Brian McGowan, 32, said knowing he was helping a sick child was thanks enough.

Stylist Steve Ramsey at Cut And Dry salon in West Palm Beach recently ran a razor across McGowan's thick, dark brown pony tail – leaving him about 25 centimeters lighter.

In the next chair, Taylor was a bit more emotional about her donation.

She broke into tears after the clipping was done.

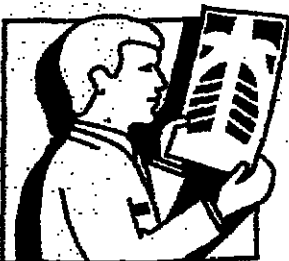
"The people who are donating their hair, it's almost like they're giving a part of themselves to somebody," Ramsey said. "It's almost like they're getting a limb cut off."

For those who do not have long-enough hair, some area salons have donated free haircuts in exchange for a monetary donation to Locks of Love. Knight said she hopes her organization's efforts will eventually attract a corporate sponsor.

"We're hair-rich and cash-poor," she said. (AP)

Life-giving infusion for those trapped under collapsed buildings

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

An infusion technique developed by a Haifa expert to treat people pinned under collapsed structures saved lives after the terrorist attack in Nairobi and is now being added to medical textbooks on the subject.

Prof. Ori Better, director of the

Technion's Rebecca Churick Crush Syndrome Laboratory, first devised the technique in 1982 to save Israeli soldiers in a collapsed building in Tyre.

Since then the technique has been used by Israeli rescuers at the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, and most recently in Kenya.

After Better's article on the technique was published eight years ago in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the technique was officially adopted by NATO forces and the Swiss army.

Better says it takes up to eight hours to free a person from under a collapsed building. When such victims are reached, a needle

erous infusion" of saline solution can be delivered – up to 10 liters in eight hours.

The solution should include an alkalinizing agent such as ordinary bicarbonate.

The Technion medical school professor explains that these components fight acidosis and protect the kidneys from the toxins produced by crushed muscles.

The infusion can prevent a victim from shock and renal insufficiency.

Better also recommends infusing mannitol, an alcohol sugar, once victims reach the hospital, to protect the kidneys and the muscles from additional damage.

CATCHING 'LAZY EYE' Bnai Zion Hospital's 30-year

practice of examining the eyes of every baby born in Haifa has paid off. A new survey by the Haifa government hospital (previously known as Rothschild) has found that the phenomenon of "lazy eye" (amblyopia) occurs in only 1.3% of the third-graders whose eyes were examined, compared to 3.5% of those who were not tested as babies.

Prof. Zvi Friedman, head of the ophthalmology department who adopted the policy of his predecessor, Prof. Eli Neiman, said that the defect, when diagnosed in newborns, can be treated.

The condition is caused by a neonatal cataract, cross eye or refraction problems; it results in the stronger eye "taking over" for the other, weaker one, causing

sight in the less-used eye to deteriorate, sometimes irreversibly. The process can be prevented if caught and treated on time.

"So far, our staff has examined hundreds of thousands of babies in family health (*ripot halav*) centers in the greater Haifa area, and they've been proven effective in greatly reducing the incidence of lazy eye in older children," Friedman said.

Despite this achievement, the Health Ministry has no plans to implement the Bnai Zion program in family health centers around the country.

Dr. Yitzhak Berlovich, head of the ministry's medical division, said he was not persuaded that the tests really made a difference in children's vision.

CERVICAL BABY

A 39-year-old woman has given birth at Sheba Hospital to a healthy, three-kilo baby boy who developed in her cervix instead of her uterus. She is reportedly the first woman in the world to do so.

After undergoing a series of fertility treatments, Ilana Edward was overjoyed when doctors told her she was pregnant. But then she received a shock: The fetus was developing in her cervix, below the uterus.

Since the situation endangered her life, doctors recommended an abortion.

But Edward first consulted with Rabbi Elimelech Fier, the head of the Ezra Le'Marpeh organization, who referred her to Sheba's ultrasound department, headed by Dr.

Reuven Aharon.

The scan showed that the fetus was indeed developing in the cervix and a small part of the lower uterus.

Still, Edward decided to postpone the abortion until she was in immediate danger.

Doctors sewed together the area below the cervix to try and push the fetus toward the womb, and Edward was ordered to rest for months under strict supervision. The baby was born by cesarean section.

Although such a pregnancy would ordinarily require a hysterectomy after delivery, Sheba doctors managed to preserve Edward's uterus in the hope that she would be able to become pregnant again.

Sosa cracks 53rd; Johnson snuffs 16 Lanka's Jayasuriya hits double ton

HOUSTON (AP) — Sammy Sosa hit his 53rd homer and Jose Hernandez and pitcher Steve Trachsel also homered as the Chicago Cubs beat the Colorado Rockies 10-5 on Friday.

Sosa got the Cubs started in the first with a 414-foot shot to right-center, leaving him one behind St. Louis' Mark McGwire in the pursuit of Roger Maris' single-season record of 61.

In four subsequent at-bats, Sosa grounded into a double play, struck out, flied out and was intentionally walked.

Pirates 2, Astros 0
Randy Johnson struck out 16 for his third shutout since joining Houston and the visiting Astros snapped Pittsburgh's nine-game winning streak.

Johnson (5-1), who allowed seven hits, tied a franchise record for strikeouts in a game by a left-hander. He had 12 strikeouts in seven innings at Pittsburgh on August 2 in his first start after joining the Astros in a July 31 trade with Seattle.

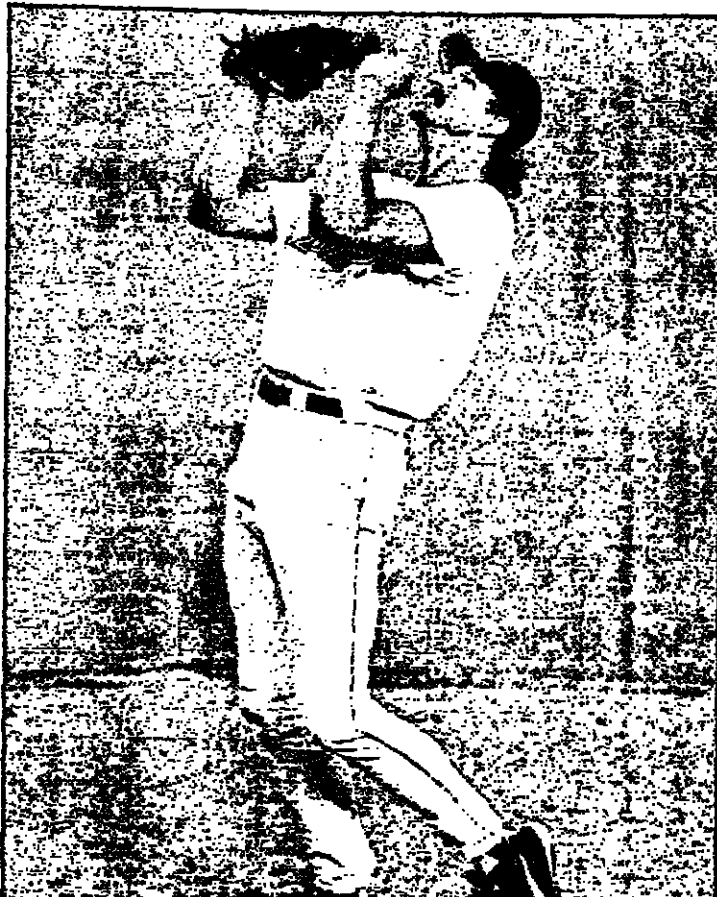
Reds 10, Marlins 8
Bret Boone homered for the third time in two games and drove in four runs as host Cincinnati remained perfect against Florida.

Cardinals 5, Braves 4 (10)
Ron Gant's bases-loaded RBI single in the bottom of the 10th off Dennis Martinez (3-5) ended St. Louis' six-game losing streak.

Mark McGwire gained ground on Babe Ruth's walk record with two full-count free passes off Greg Maddux.

McGwire, who also doubled in the third and struck out in the eighth and 10th, has 140 walks in 135 games. Ruth had 170 in 1923.

Diamondbacks 6, Brewers 3
Travis Lee, hitting just .143 since coming off the disabled list August 9, drove in four runs with a double and two singles as Arizona snapped a five-game home losing streak.



SWEET 16 — Astros' Randy Johnson celebrates after striking out Pittsburgh's Freddy Garcia to end the game. (Reuters)

Padres 12, Expos 8
Carlos Hernandez's two-run single capped a nine-run fourth. San Diego's biggest inning this year, as the host Padres rallied for a seven-run deficit for their sixth straight victory.

Phillies 4, Giants 3 (10)
Third baseman Bill Mueller's throwing error allowed the winning run to score as visiting Philadelphia snapped a five-game losing streak.

Mets 5, Dodgers 4 (10)
Mike Piazza homered and scored the winning run on a fielder's choice grounder as New York won in Piazza's first game at Dodger Stadium since he was traded in May.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Rangers 6, White Sox 5
White Sox 8, Rangers 7
Will Clark homered in the top of the 10th inning and was part of Texas' three-straight homer out-

burst in the fourth as the Rangers split a doubleheader.

Juan Gonzalez, Clark and Ivan Rodriguez hit consecutive home runs in the fourth, with Gonzalez raising his major league-leading RBI total to 135 with his two-run shot. Gonzalez has 38 home runs.

Yankees 10, Mariners 3
Chili Davis doubled to highlight a five-run first inning and Orlando Hernandez made it stand up as New York won at home.

Angels 7, Red Sox 6
Anaheim capitalized on Steve Avery's wildness and Ken Hill's return from the disabled list as it kept beating top AL teams, holding on for an away win.

Royals 6, Orioles 5
Pat Rapp pitched 6½ innings of four-hit ball before being hit by a

line drive as visiting Kansas City extended Baltimore's losing streak to five.

Blue Jays 7, Twins 6
Shawn Green's second homer of the game, a two-run shot in the seventh, sent Toronto to a home win.

Athletics 14, Indians 6 (10)
Oakland scored eight runs in the of the 10th, highlighted by Mike Blowers' two-run double and Jason Giambi's three-run homer.

Giambi and Rickey Henderson each had four of Oakland's season-high 24 hits.

Devil Rays 4, Tigers 3
Bubba Trammell's solo homer in the top of the ninth lifted Tampa Bay past Detroit in a game between the AL's worst teams.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	37	34	.520	—
Boston	38	34	.526	1 1/2
Baltimore	29	45	.392	28 1/2
Toronto	29	46	.387	29
Tampa Bay	31	41	.432	25 1/2

Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	33	40	.449	—
Kansas City	32	41	.438	1 1/2
Chicago	30	44	.408	4 1/2
Minnesota	29	44	.397	5 1/2
Detroit	31	42	.427	3 1/2

West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	35	38	.479	—
Los Angeles	31	42	.427	4 1/2
San Diego	29	44	.397	6 1/2
San Francisco	27	46	.367	8 1/2
Oakland	27	46	.367	8 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	39	46	.459	—
New York	34	41	.449	5 1/2
Philadelphia	33	42	.438	6 1/2
Montreal	31	45	.408	8 1/2
Florida	27	49	.351	12 1/2

Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	34	41	.449	—
Chicago	33	42	.438	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	31	44	.413	3 1/2
St. Paul	29	46	.387	5 1/2
Cincinnati	27	48	.360	7 1/2

West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Diego	38	47	.447	—
San Francisco	32	43	.430	6 1/2
Los Angeles	27	48	.360	11 1/2
Colorado	27	48	.360	11 1/2
Arizona	31	45	.408	7 1/2

WILD CARD STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Boston	38	34	.526	—
Texas	31	42	.427	7 1/2
Baltimore	29	45	.392	10

NATIONAL LEAGUE	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	34	41	.449	—
New York	34	41	.449	—
San Francisco	27	48	.360	7 1/2

Thursday's NL results: San Diego 8, Philadelphia 1; San Francisco 11, N.Y. 3; Cincinnati 12, Florida 3; Atlanta 4, St. Louis 4; Chicago 11, Colorado 10 (10); Milwaukee 4, Arizona 0; Los Angeles 10, Montreal 9.
Thursday's AL results: Tampa Bay 10, Minnesota 3; Oakland 6, Boston 3; Seattle 10, Cleveland 4; Toronto 11, Kansas City 1; N.Y. 6, Anaheim 5 (11); Chicago 7, Baltimore 4.

LONDON (Reuters) — Sanath Jayasuriya held center stage with a commanding double century as Sri Lanka's vaunted batting put England to the sword in the one-off Test at The Oval yesterday.

Opener Jayasuriya's stroke-filled 213 spurred Sri Lanka from their overnight 79 for one to 4-46 for three at the close of the third day in reply to England's first innings of 445.

Jayasuriya made the most of good batting conditions to thrill a capacity crowd with beautifully-timed shots through the off side off both back and front foot, strong pulling and productive sweeping, and he departed to a standing ovation when he was out shortly after tea.

The left-hander demonstrated his capacity for big innings 12 months ago by making the fourth highest score in Test cricket history, 340 against India in Colombo, and this double hundred was his fifth three-figure innings in his 38th Test and first against England.

Such was Jayasuriya's dominance that he overshadowed the accomplished Aravinda de Silva, who became the first Sri Lankan to reach 5,000 runs in Tests when he had made 23 of his typically cultured, unbeaten 125.

Yet even on such a bland pitch, Jayasuriya said he did not have Brian Lara's world Test record 375 in mind. "I just play my normal game, I don't go for records," he said.

"It was one of my best innings and it was good to be batting with de Silva because he was giving me support," Jayasuriya and de Silva, who came together at 85 for two when Mahela Jayawardene drove loosely at Angus Fraser and was caught in the gully for nine, put on 243 — a Sri Lanka record for any

wicket against England.

The early dismissal of Jayawardene gave England an encouraging start to the day but Jayasuriya and de Silva responded by putting on 50 off 39 balls in a prelude to the day's run feast.

Jayasuriya, 59 overnight, completed his century from 124 balls and his stand with de Silva reached three figures in 119 deliveries just before lunch.

Darren Gough and Ian Salisbury, bowling in tandem after the interval, restricted the batsmen to 12 runs in the first 30 minutes of the second session.

But the explosive next 30 minutes produced 53. Jayasuriya hooked Dominic Cork for six to reach his 150 from 212 balls.

There was no stopping Jayasuriya, who accelerated to 200 off 254 deliveries. When he was caught by Stewart Down the leg side off Ben Hollis's fast-medium bowling, he had made his 213 from 278 balls with a six and 33 fours.

By contrast, de Silva moved comparatively quietly to a 174-ball century, his 17th in his 74th Test but his first against England.

Stumps on the third day of the one-off Test between England and Sri Lanka at the Oval.

Sri Lanka won the toss
England, 1st innings, 445
Sri Lanka, 1st innings

Overnight 79 for one
S. Jayasuriya c Stewart b Hollis 213
M. Jayawardene c Hollis b Fraser 15
Aravinda de Silva not out 125
Angus Fraser not out 50
Extras (14b, 16b, 4nb) 34

TOTAL: 446 for three
Fall of wickets: 53, 85, 328.

To bat: Hashan Tillakaratne, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Kumar Dharmasena, Suresh Perera, Pramodaya Wickramasinghe and Muttiah Muralitharan.

Bowling: Darren Gough 19-5-60-0, Angus Fraser 17-1-73-1, Ben Hollis 15-1-70-1 (1nb), Dominic Cork 25-2-105-1 (3nb), Ian Salisbury 24-7-82-0, Mark Ramprakash 5-0-24-0, Mark Butcher 4-2-2-0.

Australia complete 3-0 series win over All Blacks in Bledisloe Cup test

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Australia recorded a 3-0 series win over New Zealand for the first time since 1929 when they beat the All Blacks 19-14 in the third and final Bledisloe Cup rugby union test yesterday.

The Wallabies fought their way back from 11-0 down to complete the whitewash. They had won in Melbourne and Christchurch.

Australia took the lead for the first time when full-back Matthew Burke crossed for a try in the 73rd

minute. But the kicking of captain John Eales, who landed four penalties and a conversion, proved decisive. Christian Cullen scored New Zealand's only try early in the first half while fly half Andrew Mehrtens landed two penalties and a drop goal.

New Zealand's defeat was their fifth in succession their worst run since they lost six consecutive games in 1949.

Rafter tops Rusedski to reach Hamlet finals

COMMACK, N.Y. (AP) — Patrick Rafter, the defending US Open champion, continued his mastery of Greg Rusedski with a 6-4, 7-5 victory yesterday to advance to the finals of the Hamlet Cup.

The 25-year-old Rafter, No. 3 on the ATP Tour and the second seed in the tournament, is 5-1 — including 5-0 on hard courts — against Rusedski, last year's US Open runner-up.

"I played a smart game today," Rafter said. "I served well and made the most of the big points."

The Australian, 25-3 with three titles since mid-June, will oppose the winner of last night's other semifinal match between No. 8 Felix Mantilla of Spain and 18-year-old Marat Safin, the rookie sensation from Russia, in today's championship.

"My goal in this tournament, in addition to wanting to win, was to make sure my game is all there for the US Open. It is," Rafter said. "I definitely have a chance to win if the draw opens up a bit. I have to keep my energy level up, especially if the weather continues hot and humid, as it has been here."

Rusedski, in only his second tournament since a seven-week layoff because of a sprained ankle suffered June 12 at the Queens Club in London, dropped to 30-16 and 20-6 on hardcourt.

"It was satisfying to get seven matches in since my return,"

Rusedski said. "Patrick's serve was definitely on. By far, he's the best player on the tour this summer."

Graf to meet Novotna in final
Steffi Graf beat Lindsay Davenport 6-3, 7-6 (8-6) in the Pilot Pen International at New Haven, Connecticut, snapping the

A month later she had surgery on her left knee. All three of her semifinal appearances this year were against Davenport, who beat her at Indian Wells and at Stanford.

Graf was set to go up against this year's Wimbledon finalist Jana Novotna in yesterday's title match. Novotna advanced with a hard-fought 6-4, 6-4 victory over unseeded Julie Halard-Decugis.

Erlich, Behr in US Open

Eyal Erlich and Noam Behr will represent Israel in the men's event of the US Open which begins tomorrow.

Both Erlich and Behr advanced after winning their third-round qualifiers yesterday. Erlich beat Toby Mitchell of Australia 6-4, 7-6, 9-7 and Behr topped Sergi Duran from Spain 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. Less fortunate was Harel Levy who went down in the same stage to Giorgio Galimberti from Italy, losing 6-4, 2-6, 3-6.

The Israeli Davis Cup team takes on France in Ramat Hasharon from September 2.

Heather Chait

Qualifier stuns top-seeded Bjorkman

Qualifier Sebastian Grosjean of France upset top-seeded Jonas Bjorkman 7-6 (9-7), 6-1 to advance to the semifinals of the MFS Pro Tennis Championship in Brookline, Mass.

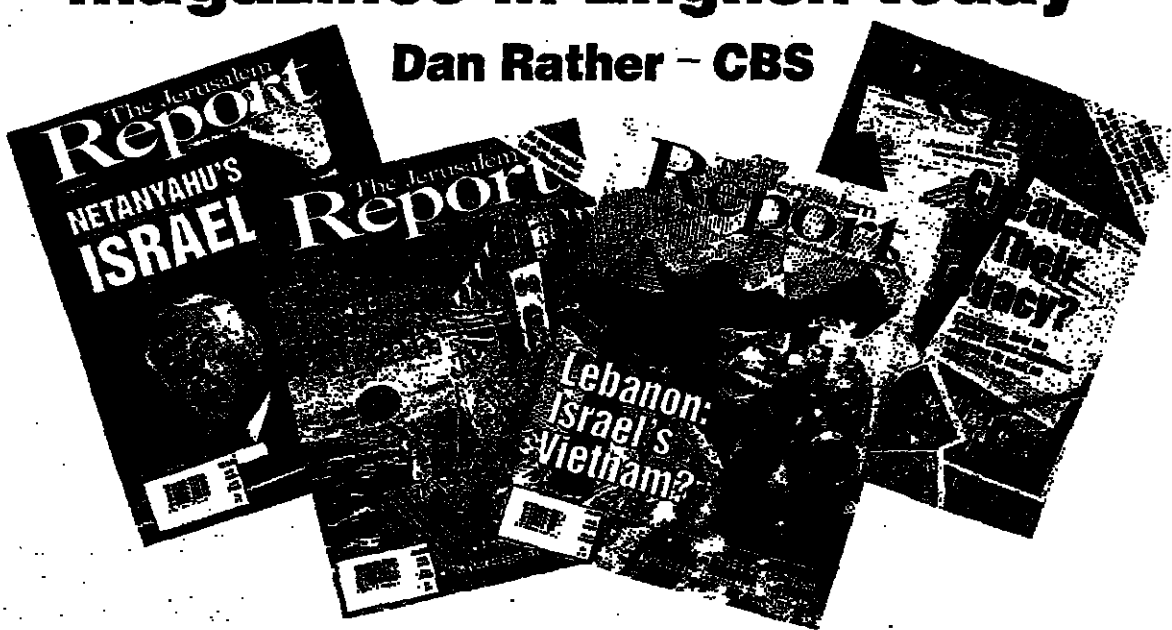
Bjorkman had appeared headed to win the first set but double-faulted in the tiebreaker at set point.

Yesterday's semis were scheduled to pit Grosjean and Michael Chang and Paul Haarhuis against Cedric Pioline.

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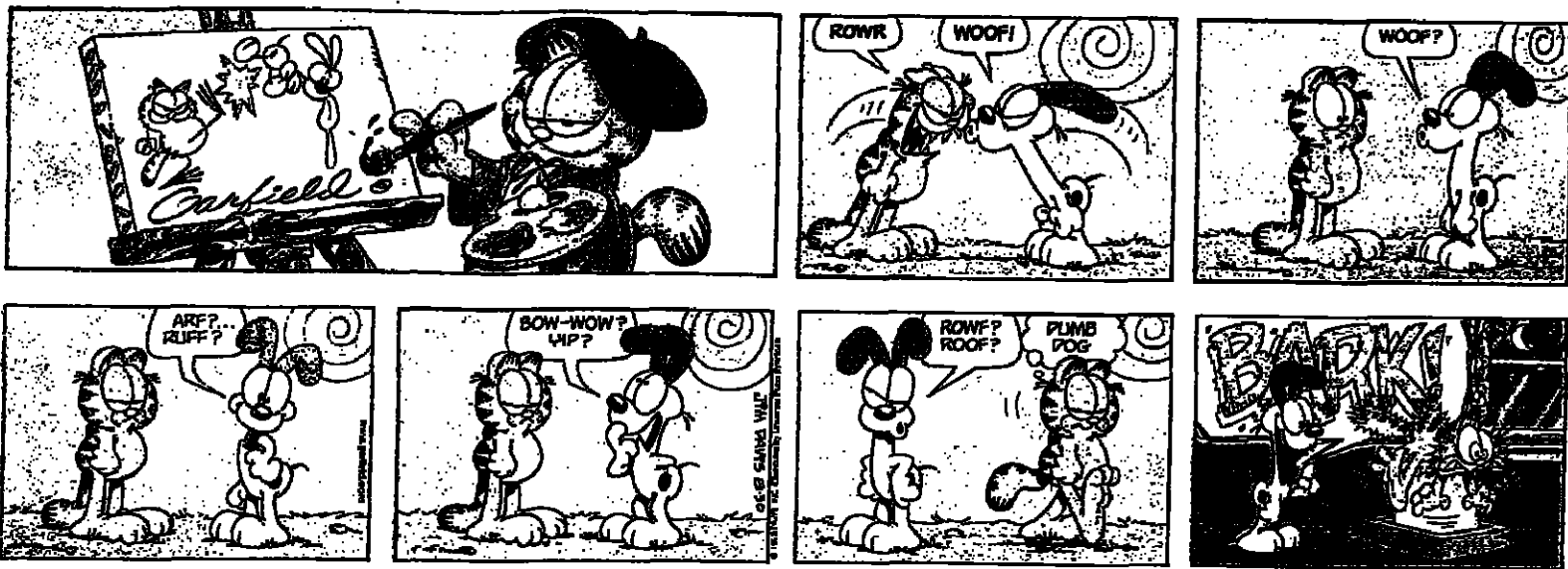
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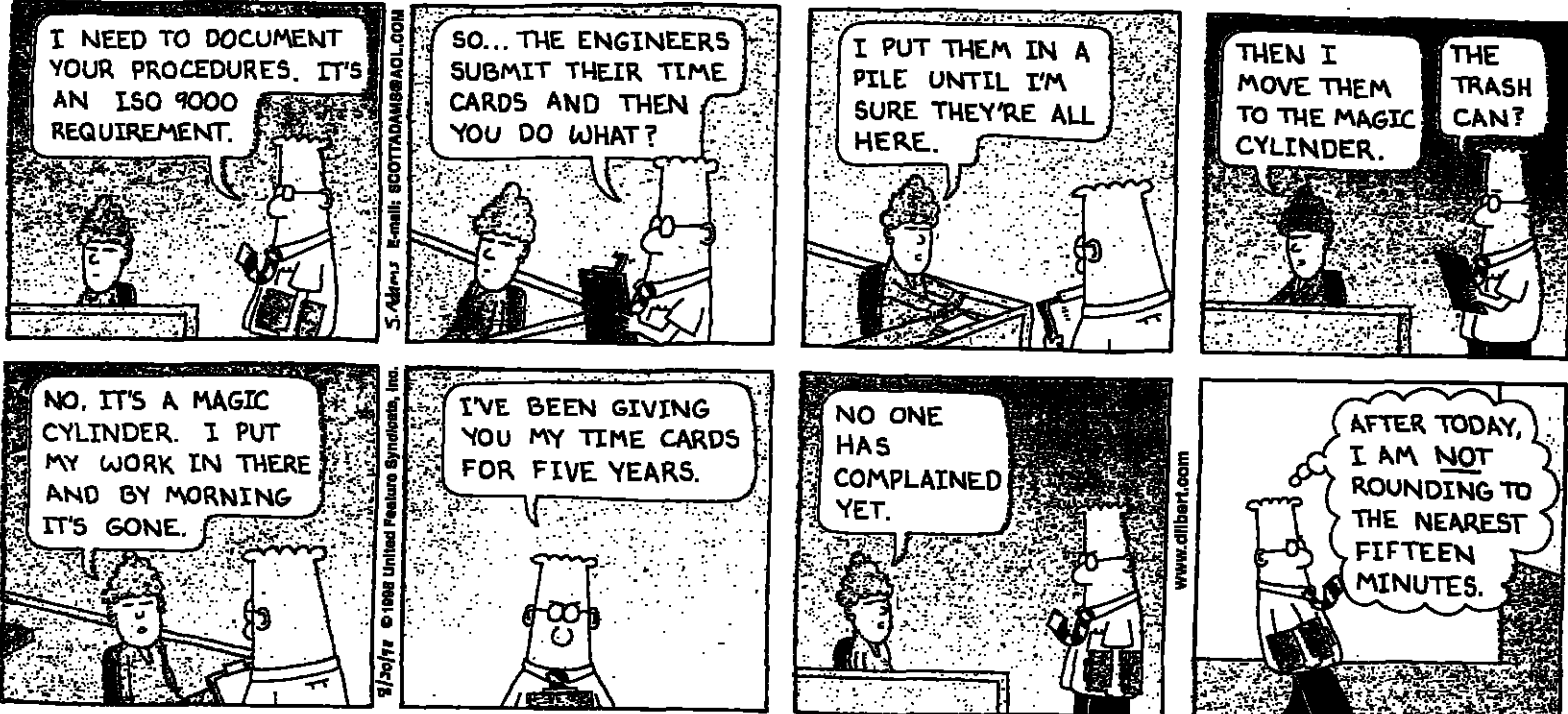
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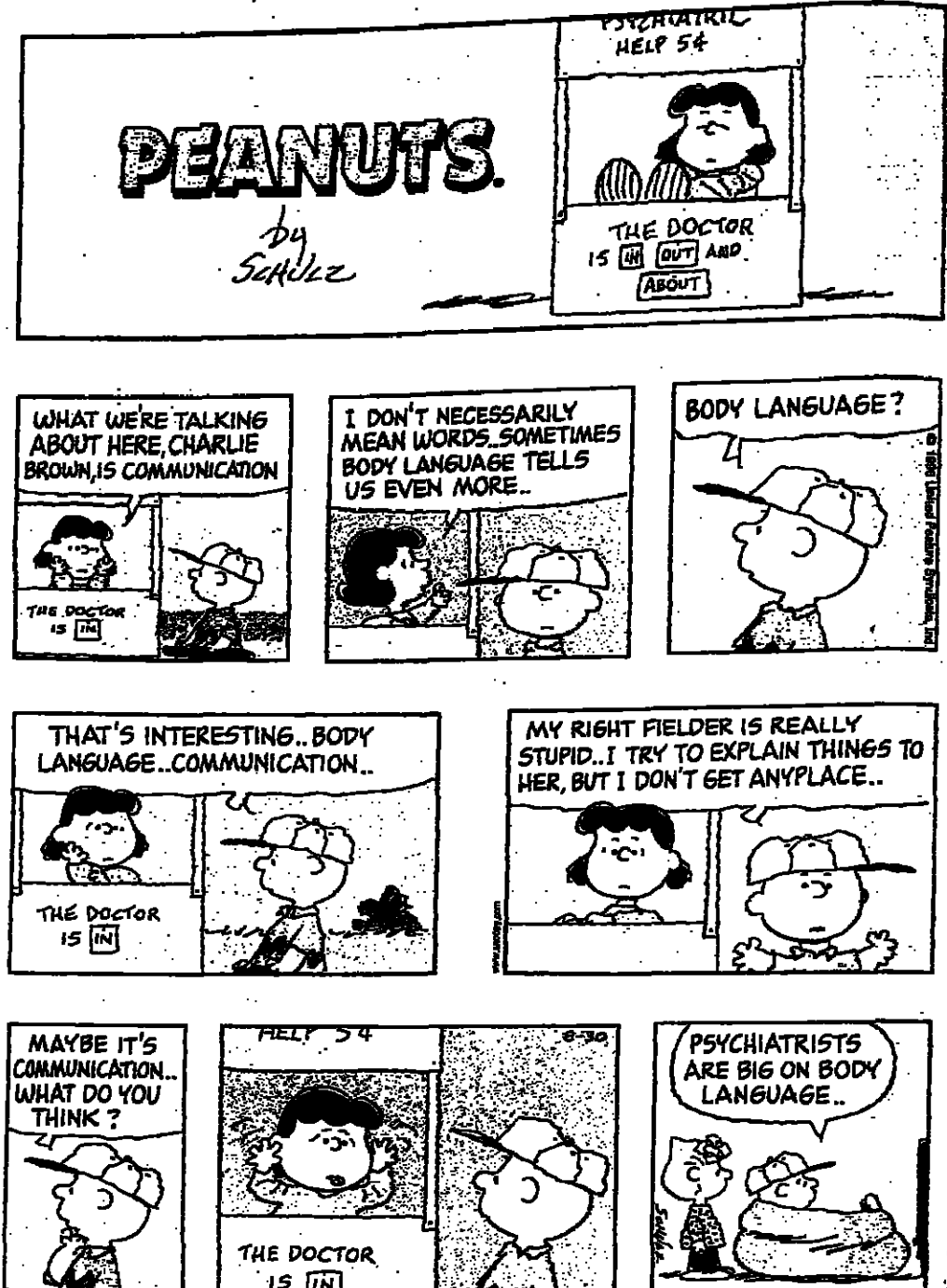
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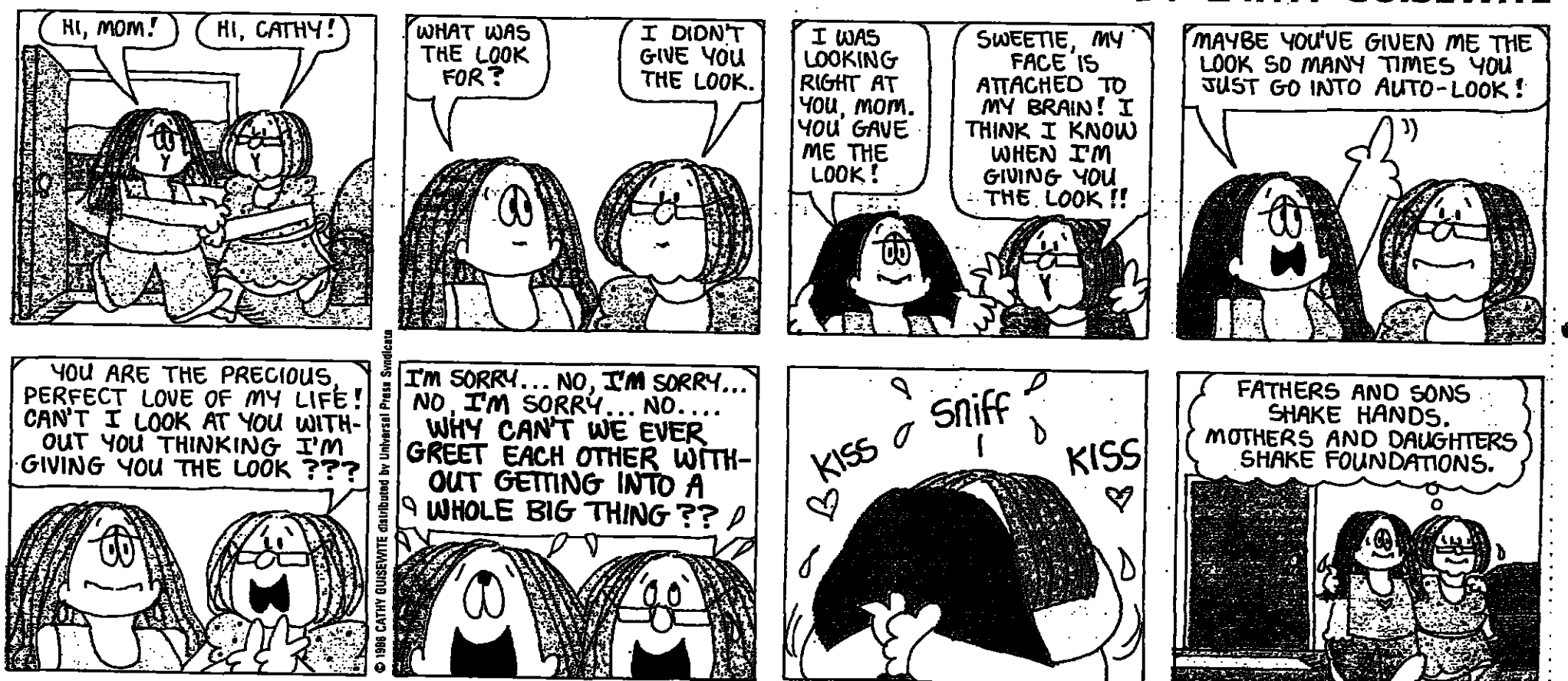
BY SCOTT ADAMS



Doonesbury
G.B. TRUDEAU



CATHY



BY CATHY GUISEWITE

Calvin and Hobbes
WATSON



CRITICS' CHOICE

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

The Age of Aquarius is past, but due to popular demand the Beit Zvi production of the 60s musical, *Hair*, is being extended. Last show at the Ramat Gan Theater tonight at 8:30 p.m.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN



Drew Barrymore stars as a cute waitress in 'The Wedding Singer.'

*** THE WEDDING SINGER - Light as a marshmallow and about as nourishing, this is a silly but entertaining romantic comedy that stars Adam Sandler as a suburban crooner who makes a living serenading newlyweds at a local reception hall, and Drew Barrymore as a cute waitress engaged to marry a big lug of a junk-bond trader. Director Frank Coraci and screenwriter Tim Herlihy understand the trifling nature of their material and they do a good job of keeping things bubbly and proportional. Much of the humor here comes from the picture's comic-book approach to its time frame. The year is 1985, the clothes are tacky and everyone's hair looks awful. And though it is a bit disconcerting to see such recent fads already treated as the stuff of ancient history, the filmmakers' exaggerated approach to their setting feels necessary. The story alone is too slight to sustain an entire picture, and by adding a bit of polyester sparkle, they give themselves more room to play. (Parental guidance suggested.)

**** THE SWEET HEREAFTER - The grave beauty of Canadian director Atom Egoyan's film dawns on us slowly, its power diffused as if by a time-release capsule. In the simple terms, the movie tells the story of a deadly school-bus accident and its painful effect on the residents of a small town. But the intricate narrative structure of Egoyan's script - which weaves back and forth across the course of two years - bestows on the film the shifting, enigmatic quality of memory itself. As the film progresses, our understanding of the central catastrophe is subtly colored and altered by all that's preceded and all that follows. With Ian Holm. (Not recommended for children.)

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Delius: A Song Before Sunrise; Prokofiev: Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano op. 94; Beethoven: Serenade for String Trio op. 8
7:07 Dvorak: String Quartet No. 12 "American"; Haydn: Symphony No. 84
8:05 Mozart: Clarinet Quintet K581; Britten/Posselt: Matinee musicales op. 24 Suite No. 2
9:05 Handel: Concerto Grosso op. 330; Handel: 3 short pieces from The Messiah; Haydn: String Quartet in B flat major op. 76/4; Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4 op. 58; Czerny: Fantasy No. 1 for Horn and Piano on a Theme of Schubert op. 336; Brahms: Piano Trio No. 1 op. 8; Dvorak: Symphony No. 8 op. 88
10:00 Light Classical - Handel, Samtitz, Camerata, and Haydn
10:00 Artist of the Week - Keith Jarrett, piano and harpsichord
10:05 Mozart: Concerto in D major K488; Mozart: Concerto in D major K488
10:05 Encores - Schumann, Mendelssohn, Brahms, and Schubert
10:00 Music for Sunday

MONTEVERDI: DIXI DOMINUS, PSALM 110

10:00 Bach: Organ Prelude and Fugue in F minor, G.P.E. Bach; Magnificat; Mendelssohn: Prelude and Fugue in G major op. 37/2; Handel: Messiah in E minor
10:00 Rostislav: Aria from The Barber of Seville; Gluck: Aria from Iphigenia in Aulis; Mahler: Symphony No. 9; Strauss: Aria from Ariadne auf Naxos
20:05 Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 1; Haydn: Symphony No. 24 in D; Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 24 K491; Beethoven: Symphony No. 6 "Pastorale"; Brahms: Alto Rhapsody op. 53; Dvorak: Piano Quintet op. 67
23:00 Sounds to End the Day

12:00 Party Time with Joan Summerfield

13:00 Windows on the World
13:30 Pick of the Hits with Donna Abraham
16:00 Afternoon Drive (until 19:00) - with Aaron Katzman
17:45 Sports Update
18:00 Evening Jazz
20:45 Jerusalem Post Sports - tomorrow's sports tonight - with Joe Hoffman and Ori Lewis
21:00 Soul Talk with David Aaron
22:00 West Rock (with "Dead Air") with Uncle Harvey
1:00 Late Night Music

11:00 News

11:10 Pause for Thought
11:15 Short Story
11:30 The Greenfield Collection
12:00 News
12:05 Write On
12:15 The World Voyage
12:15 Florentine
12:25 The Practice
12:30 News Flash
12:35 Wings
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 Dream of Jeanne
14:50 Days of Our Lives
15:00 The World
15:05 Angels Don't Cry
15:10 One Life to Live
15:15 Little Star
15:20 Love Story with
15:25 The World
15:30 News
15:35 Sports Roundup
15:40 The Week
15:45 The Week
15:50 Sunday Sportsweek
20:00 News
20:01 Shadow Boxing on the
20:05 The World
20:10 The Edge
20:15 Newsweek
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21:00 News

BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:00 News
6:05 World Business Report
6:15 Sports Roundup
6:30 F.O.C.
7:00 Newsweek
7:30 Global Business
7:45 English Newspaper Headlines
7:55 Sports Update with Danny Gowing
8:00 News
8:05 Letter From America
8:10 Morning Brunch (until 12:00)
8:15 News
8:20 The Doctors Natural Health Show
10:00 The Doctors Natural Health Show

CNN NEWS

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWest local news
6:00 Morning Drive (until 9:00) - Music with David Starck
7:30 English Newspaper Headlines
7:45 Sports Update with Danny Gowing
8:00 News
8:05 Letter From America
8:10 Morning Brunch (until 12:00)
8:15 News
8:20 The Doctors Natural Health Show
10:00 The Doctors Natural Health Show

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**

 - Decline to take the rubbish (6)
 - A fellow eloquent and wealthy (8)
 - Skinhead's amusement is killing (9)
 - Shook for a retired Scandinavian (5)
 - Rioters make merry (7)
 - One star turned to crime (7)
 - This big bird is better than a birdie (5)
 - Holiday telegram may trigger alarm (4-4)
 - Grouse-and sound extra offensive (8)
 - Native Antipodean from Lima originally (5)
 - Reduction in share support (3-4)
 - No French holy man can work constantly (3-4)

DOWN

 - Uncommunicative husband and daughter (8)
 - Am cast out and am furious (7)
 - Tripper needing spectacles all the time (9)

ACROSS

 - Employment enables you and me to get on (5)
 - Preoccupation of old boys' meeting (9)
 - Artists produced key dissertation (9)
 - Father scattered off about for a prank (6)

DOWN

 - A leader who is on the fiddle (5,9)
 - Permission to go (5)
 - No longer a problem for a tall-tale (7)
 - Army reservists advised because of ability (6)
 - Very fast is how the carpet maker works! (2,1,4,2,5)
 - Wise man or otherwise, he philanthropist (9)
 - The man's alarm is from Spain (8)
 - Cause great offence, but not in anger (7)
 - Pole carried by eccentric tailor up before the jury (2,5)
 - Free of charge (6)
 - A small bureau made by an expert (5)

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TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News Flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel
7:00 News
7:05 News in Arabic
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CHANNEL 2 (11)

6:30 News Flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel
7:00 News
7:05 News in Arabic
7:15 News
7:20 News
7:25 News
7:30 News
7:35 News
7:40 News
7:45 News
7:50 News
7:55 News
8:00 News
8:05 News
8:10 News
8:15 News
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24:00 News

CHANNEL 3 (11)

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